

Activities of American Missionaries in Kayseri

Ayhan Öztürk¹, S. Tunay Kamer²

Abstract

This study focuses on the activities of American missionaries in Kayseri, who found a large area of activity during the regression period of the Ottoman Empire. They mostly carried out educational and health activities in Kayseri Station, founded in 1854 as a part of the Western Anatolia Mission. In this study, the schools opened in Kayseri are mentioned in the section reserved for educational activities. In terms of such activities, American College in Talas is particularly important, and American missionaries efficiently founded hospitals in Kayseri within the framework of health services. Using American Board archive documents, the present study attempts to shed light on all activities carried out and gives brief information about missionary activities in Kayseri.

Özet

Bu çalışmada, Amerikan misyonerlerinin Kayseri’de yapmış oldukları misyonerlik faaliyetlerine değinilmiştir. Amerikan misyonerleri Osmanlı Devleti’nin gerileme döneminde çok geniş bir çalışma sahası bulmuşlardır. Bu saha içinde Batı Türkiye Misyonu’nda bulunan ve 1854 yılında kurulan Kayseri İstasyonunda daha çok eğitim ve sağlık faaliyetlerinde bulunmuşlardır. Çalışmanın eğitim faaliyetleri kısmında; Kayseri’de açılan okullardan bahsedilmiştir. Eğitim alanında özellikle Talas’da bulunan Amerikan Koleji önemlidir. Sağlık faaliyetleri kapsamında Amerikalı misyonerler Kayseri’de de hastane kurarak çalışmalarını etkili kılmışlardır. Tüm faaliyetler Amerikan Board Arşiv belgeleri ışığında aydınlatılmaya çalışılmış ve Kayseri’deki misyonerlik faaliyetleri hakkında kısa bilgi verilmeye çalışılmıştır.

The missionary institution called “American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions,” founded in 1810 in the USA, is commonly referred to as the “BOARD” or “ABCFM,” for short. With its headquarters in New York, the Board is the most prominent and significant institution among American missionary organizations.

Considering the Ottoman Empire as an area to be explored, the American Board included it in its program and sent American missionaries called Pliny Fisk and Levi Parsons to Anatolia, and these missionaries came to İzmir on 14th January, 1820. Their mission was to discover new areas for missionary activities. These missionaries established their first center in İzmir, and it remained one of the most important centers of the Board until Istanbul Station was founded. Following the foundation of İzmir Station in 1823, a new station was founded in Bayrut. After the decision to establish another station in Istanbul in 1831, William Goodell and his family migrated from Malta, and two missionaries named Dwight and Schaffler came to Istanbul in 1832. In 1835, however, Anatolian mission was divided into two parts; that is, Istanbul Mission and Little Asia Mission. In the first annual meeting in Harput, the land of Anatolia was divided into three parts; namely, Eastern, Western and Central Anatolia Missions.

The Foundation of Kayseri Station

American missionaries examined Anatolia when they first came to the Ottoman lands for exploration. Every part of Anatolia was examined by such missionaries who came from Boston for exploration. The first American missionary to come to Kayseri region for exploratory purposes was de Peder Elnathan Gridley. Peder Elnathan Gridley, who set out from Boston accompanied by his teacher of Armenian language in early 1827, reached Kayseri to examine this area and learn Turkish. However, though afflicted with merciless malaria of Anatolia, Gridley could not give up his passion for climbing Mount Erciyes to

¹ Prof., Cumhuriyet University, Faculty of Education, ayhanozturk@cumhuriyet.edu.tr

² Res. Assist., Cumhuriyet University, Faculty of Education, tunaykamer@gmail.com

investigate the thesis of the renowned geographer Strabon (BC 63- AD 24) that both the Mediterranean and the Black Sea are seen from the summit of this mount, so he lost his life and was buried in the snow-covered piedmonts of this mountain in 1827 (Kocabaşoğlu, 1989:36).

As a result of the reports sent to the American Board after this first exploratory visit, in the meeting of the Turkish Mission of the Board in 1850, it was decided that Tokat, Sivas, Amasya and Merzifon should closely be monitored by Trabzon Station; Harput, Muş, Bitlis and Van should closely be monitored by Erzurum Station, and a special attention should be paid to Kayseri and Tarsus. As a result of these decisions, the first American Missionary Centre was founded in Kayseri in 1854 (Kocabaşoğlu, 1989:92).

When the achieved documents of the American Board are examined, it is seen that among the Western Turkish Mission stations were Istanbul, İzmir, Tokat, Bursa, Sivas, Yozgat, Bahçecik and Edirne along with Kayseri as significant stations (P.A.B.C.F.M., Reel 582 Document Number: 4).

Upon examining the documents that belong to 1861, it is possible to see the significance of Kayseri in the Western Turkish mission (P.A.B.C.F.M., Reel 582 Document Number: 9,10).

Annual Statistical Data for the Year 1861 Name of The Mission: The Western Turkey Mission

Stations and External Stations	Employees									
	American					Native				
	Missionaries	Doctor	Other Male Assistants	Females	Total	Priest	Licensed Preachers	School Instructor	Other Assistants	Total
Istanbul	7			8	15		1	6	7	14
Kayseri	1			1	2		2	20	10	50
Sivas	2	1		3	6		1	1		2
Bursa						1		1		2
Bandırma							1			1
Bahçecik						1		1	1	3
Bilecik						1		1		2
Adapazarı							1	1	1	3
Ankara									1	1

Churches and Communities

Name of the Station	Number of Churches	People Working for the Field of Religion	People Registered in Other Churches	Job Quitters	Dead	Anathematized Members	Female Members	Total Members	First Members	Locations where Sermons are Delivered	Sunday Mass Communities	Theological Seminaries	Students at Theological Seminaries
Istanbul	3	4	3		2			66		7	238	3	10
Kayseri	1	3				2		51		1	139	1	120
Sivas	1	1				1		14		1	50	1	30
Bursa	1	5			1	3		52		1	80	1	25
Bandırma	1	6						6		1	20		
Bahçecik	1			3	3	1		46		1	140	1	65
Bilecik	1	1				1		10		1	16	1	11
Adapazarı	1	10			1			39		1	84	1	26

Ankara										1	5		
--------	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	---	---	--	--

As seen in the tables, American missionaries in Kayseri employed 50 people in 1861. The number of church members was increased to 51. Missionaries were highly efficient in educational and health activities in Kayseri. When doing such activities, they accepted Talas as a point of departure.

Being a branch of Kayseri Mission, Talas Mission was founded in 1870 as a remote station, but it became the central station in time. Kayseri Mission was unified with Talas Mission in time, and the former became the centre (Özsoy, 1996:47).

The first American school founded in Talas is American Girls' School, opened in 1871. An American named James L. Fowle founded a school for male students in Lower Talas. Such elementary schools functioned as handcraft courses.

In the modern sense, the first American school to be founded in Talas is American Girls' School, which started education after being opened in 1888. This school started its educational activities one year later in 1889 in the building called Pasha's Konak or Konak with Lions in Upper Talas, which is now used as the social facilities at Erciyes University. Once again in the same year, 1889, an American called Mr. Wintage founded a boys' high school instead of the one founded previously in Lower Talas in 1882. One year later, health services were provided in 1890 near the point where girls' school was located.

The most remarkable activities of American missionaries in Kayseri are those carried out in the field of education and health. The following section presents a brief outline of such activities.

Educational Activities of Protestant American Missionaries in Talas

Schools are the most productive and notable field of work for missionaries. Thanks to education, missionaries have reached their overall and specific objectives for years to come. Through the means of education, they carried out their missionary activities without arousing feelings of hostility in Turks. Therefore, these schools were opened in every corner of the empire (Tozlu, 1991:72-73).

The most widespread educational institutions in the Ottoman Empire were American schools. An increase in the number of such schools paralleled the rise of Protestantism. Attaching a special importance to education, the American Board opened elementary and secondary schools and colleges in every part of the state (Ertuğrul, 2002:156; Taşdemirci, 2001:13-30). Such schools spread quickly in the Ottoman Empire. Statistical data related to education in 1880 only in Western Turkish mission were as follows:

Stations and External Stations	Institutions of Theology and Other	Students	Girls in Boarding Schools	Students	Secondary Schools	Schoolboys	Schoolgirls	Total number of Students	Theology Students	Adults	All Students
Bursa	1	90	2	85	11	139	124	263		20	485
Kayseri			1	46	40	994	564	1558	22	100	1735
Istanbul	1	72	1	94	7	125	105	220			355
Manisa			1	19	6	66	126	292	2		313
Merzifon	1	22	1	42	18	405	220	646	10	95	815
Izmit	1	80	1	71	14	52	32	462	13		626
Sivas	1	14	1	15	11	403	185	586		90	705
Total	6	276	8	372	107	2182	1356	4027	47	305	5007

Table: Statistical data on Education in the Western Turkey Mission in 1880³

When the educational data presented by American Board are examined, it is observed that American Protestants expected a lot from education among missionary activities. Missionaries opened 6 higher education institutions and theology schools in the framework of the Western Turkish Mission, and the Board began to educate its own members. The Board educated priests, teachers and other assistants in line with their own perspectives. It recruited the graduates of missionary schools in various part of the Ottoman land.

Kayseri is one of the most important stations of the American Board. It has a significant share in activities in every field. In the field of education, especially American College in Talas is crucial. The total number of students at this station in 1880 was 1735; Kayseri had the largest number of people being educated. Missionaries attached importance to the education of adults as well. 100 adults received education in 1880 (Öztürk ve Yıldız, 2007:63).

According to the Board reports released in 1888, there were 12.000 residents in Talas. Houses were built on a high hill. Talas American College was founded in the area where there was a big house with large rooms. The building with large rooms consisted of a house and school constructed for two families. One of the large rooms is connected to the roof; half of the building functioned as a school, while the other half was used by missionaries. Since the rooms at school were small, missionaries requested for the construction of new buildings (P.A.B.C.F.M., Reel 599 Document Number: 558).

Schools for females and males were opened in Talas. The female school was in service between 1871 and 1915. As for the schools founded by Americans in Talas was Talas American Boys' School, which (Öztürk ve Yıldız, 2007:92) was opened in 1889; it continued to provide education at intervals after the World War I, and later it was closed for a while (Tozlu, 1991:139).

Missionaries of the American Board gave importance to Talas and indirectly to Kayseri Station. They made financial contributions to education in this area. Financial Kayseri report released in 1896 clearly demonstrates this significance (Koçabaşoğlu, 2000:105).

Financial Report of 1896 for Kayseri Station

Expense Items	Money Paid To Locals In Return For Service	Foreign People-Institutions	ABCFM	Total Expense
Expenses Of The Protestant Church	296		24 - 407	727
For Elementary Schools	23	191	25- 189	428
Boarding, Secondary - High Schools	-	84	218-241	543
Other Expenses			231	231

The financial report for the boarding school for males in Talas for 1899-1900 educational year shows that the school was a paid one. 146 liras and 69 cents was spent for each boarding student in that year; 134 liras and 45 cents were paid by the student under the name of school fee (Koçabaşoğlu, 2000:124). The school in Talas was supported by the Board of Females. They met the needs of the school such as furniture and others along with the money they paid (P.A.B.C.F.M., Reel 600 Document Number: 491).

Construction work started at the school on 6th June, 1908 to expand the building. Two large rooms were constructed; a lounge room was built for missionaries; 36 double desks

³ P.A.B.C.F.M., Reel: 596 Document Number: 263.

were bought for the classrooms. Since missionaries attached importance to this school, they constantly provided help and support (P.A.B.C.F.M., Reel 618 Document Number: 132). The statistical data on 1908 for Talas American College are as follows (P.A.B.C.F.M., Reel 618 Document Number: 138, 139):

Statistics of Education for Talas American College in 1908

At the College

Number of Boarding Students: 42
Number of Day Students: 22
Students Privately Trained in Music: 6
Total: 70

At Secondary School

Males: 11
Females:
Boarding Students: 7
Day Students: 11
Total: 29

At Elementary School:

Males: 21
Females:
Boarding Students: 12
Number of Day Students: 2
Total: 35

Relations with the Church

At Higher Education

Protestant Armenians: 39
Protestant Rums
Gregorian Armenians: 18
Orthodox Rums: 1
Total: 70

At Secondary School

Armenians: 29

At Elementary School

Armenians: 27

Muslims: 8

Total: 35

Teachers:

1 teacher of Armenian and Turkish lessons
1 female music teacher
1 female science teacher
1 female teacher of Armenian
1 Rum teacher
1 teacher in the secondary school
1 teacher in the elementary school
2 American teachers

As seen in the statistics of 1908, there were mostly Armenian students at the school. The existence of a section titled "relations with the church" in the report clearly indicates the

purpose of foundation for this school. Muslim students received education only in the primary school. Boarding and day students were educated at this school. Armenian, Rum and American teachers worked there.

In 1909, the Young Christian Males Association, the YCMA for short, began to act more actively in Kayseri Station. They founded two clubs, one in Talas and the other in Kayseri. The clubs had approximately 100 members in Talas and 200 members in Kayseri. There were two presidents and 7 full time employees in the clubs. Students were also directed to these clubs. Missionaries tried every possible way to win the hearts of the youth. There were reading rooms in the club, education in gymnastics and other courses, and Bible was provided in the club. For two years such activities were organized by one of the presidents on a regular basis. Muslims also attended these meetings (P.A.B.C.F.M., Reel 618 Document Number: 134), and missionaries welcomed such participations. Such missionary activities clearly show why these schools were opened.

The statistical data for the male section of Talas American College in 1909 were prepared by missionaries. During this period there was only 1 Turkish student at this school. Boarding and day students were educated (P.A.B.C.F.M., Reel 628 Document Number: 141).

End-of-year Report of the School on 18th June 1909

Number of Protestant Armenian Students: 30

Number of Protestant Gregorian Students: 30

Total Number of Armenian Students: 60

Number of Protestant Rum Students: 8

Number of Orthodox Rum Students: 7

Total Number of Rum Students: 15

Number of Turkish Students: 1

Total number of Students: 76

Boarding Students: 37

Day Students: 39

Graduates: 4

Teachers:

Native Turkish: 6

American Female Teacher: 1

American Principal: 1

Total: 8

In 1910, Talas American School for Males provided 9 years of training; that is, 4 years reserved for the preparatory school and 5 years for the college. At this school, where 7 local teachers worked, there were totally 109 students (12 Rums and 97 Armenians); 48 of them received education as boarding students. The students came from 23 different towns and villages. The school spent about 700 Turkish liras during the year. The American Board made substantial contributions to the education at this school (P.A.B.C.F.M., Reel 628 Document Number: 145,146). The statistics released in 1911 indicate that the effect of the school in the environment increased (P.A.B.C.F.M., Reel 628 Document Number: 162, 166).

1- Annual Statistics on 1911 for Female Boarding School

Number of Students

TALAS

Boarding Students: 64

Day Students: 83

College: 70
Secondary School: 25
Elementary School: 43

KAYSERİ

Kindergarten: 82
Elementary School: 67

Church Members:

Protestant: 114
Gregorian: 98
Orthodox: 2

2- Annual Statistics on Male Boarding School

Prep Class: 4 years
College: 5 Years
Number of Teachers: 8
Number of Students:
Boarding Students: 59
Number of Day Students: 67
Muslim: 4
Orthodox: 9
Protestant: 55
Gregorian: 59

As the statistical data show, students with various nationalities and religions received education in Talas American College. The students came from 30 different towns and villages. They were classified on the basis of their religions and communions, and such a classification was specified in annual reports.

The graduates of this school usually worked as a teacher in various cities. The school worked in a disciplined way in line with the suggested methods (P.A.B.C.F.M., Reel 628 Document Number: 209). The school, which kept going in 1913 and 1914, was closed after missionaries returned to their homeland during World War I (P.A.B.C.F.M., Reel 628 Document Number: 207). After the closing of the missionary school in Talas during war years, the Board once again applied the government on 1st May, 1925 to open the school. In March 1927, this demand was renewed. Though no objections were voiced by the Board of National Education and Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the ministry of national education did not state a positive or negative decision (Turan, 2002:53).

The school was opened for education with its 25 students in October 1928 as a five-year school after elementary education. 50 young villagers got registered at this school to be educated in the field of trade after they paid the school fee in 1937 (Turan, 2002:59). Hadi İlbaş, who received education from this school in that year, stated the following:

"Talas American College was a really important school for us. The school was founded in such a place that we were isolated from the environment. Being inspired by a story, we called it Chateau de theif, a small island in the Mediterranean Sea. A place where you can hardly go outside or stay inside was mentioned in the story. Our principal, Mr Nelson, was appointed to this post in 1926. His wife, Mrs Nelson was a teacher as well. Mr Nelson was known as "uncle" in the area. He was a real philanthropist. In those times, all teachers were educated with a missionary spirit. There were French, German and English school in Istanbul. However, Americans came to understand that it is impossible to christianize the Muslims in a muslim country. We were present in every type of sport. For example,

I used to get a degree in running; I was in skiing and volleyball teams and I knew how to play basketball, baseball and how to climb mountains."
(<http://www.milliyet.com.tr/2003/10/16/pazar/paz13.html>)

The overall structure in American colleges is summarized by İlbaş very well. There were missionaries as teachers at these schools. As İlbaş noted, after understanding that they cannot Christianize Muslims, missionaries began to struggle to impose the elements of their own cultures. The courses at school verify this.

In 1950, students gave a recount of the four years that they spent at school as follows (Özsoy, 1996):

"Four Years in Talas"

"Four years passed very quickly; days and months passed one after the other and the fourth year will end soon; the third year students of today were in the prep class four years ago. They were small children trying to learn English. While higher graders were telling each other exhilarating stories, prep students only listened to them. Older students used to talk about matches and films as they listened silently. Prep students tried to tell their friends only their own stories. As time passed, children in prep classes grew. When they got to know themselves, they came to realize that their fellows were nice people, too. Soon they themselves were a part of the school as well. They learned to play basketball, volleyball, handball and many other sports.

In the second year, they were first graders; the lessons were familiar to them. They began to speak English better. Most of the lessons were in English. Now they can play tennis. There are a number of clubs in their class; concerts are given and plays are staged. In the second grade, they staged an excellent play titled "Yapışkanlar". They acted well; they staged a pleasant play about Indians. They staged plays from Shakespeare and other playwrights.

They organized a lot of excursions around Talas in the second grade. One day, as a group of 14-15 students, they decided to go to Derevenk. Derevenk was a large area in the form of a valley that was made up of rocks in which water ran. Before going there some chicken, cakes, cheese and other food were bought from Kayseri; Miss Black cooked the chicken with rice. All of them were very happy. They got up early in the morning on Sunday; they put on short pants and light t-shirts. They sang a song with the accompaniment of the principal, and they set out with their lunch, accordions and harmonicas. Mr Sther acted as the leader. They enjoyed themselves in Derevenk Valley. They crawled in caves, played games and took photos. The caves were so beautiful that they wanted to spend the night there, but it was soon clear that this was not possible. They stopped off in a green place. They had a nice lunch; they prepared their own tea. It was a season when the river was cool. Some of them swam in the river. They had a very nice day that they had never experienced in their life. The students who participated in this trip were a part of a class. Those who heard of this trip were jealous of them.

The prep class students were now in the third grade after the first and second ones. Four years passed and now they are high school students. During this four-year period they were taught to treat their younger brothers kindly. They were educated to be students helping others. They acted as the leaders of the cooperative system at school. They learned how to do their own duties, how to manage a group and the sense of mission. All these would help them to be better individuals in the society. We wish them to be a good friend for themselves and loyal and useful citizens for the country; we wish them a happy and enjoyable life."



Figure: Kayseri American College

These expressions indicate that lessons were in English; social activities were organized for students and the school was a preferred one. It strikes us that the school was a successful one with its modern educational practices. A typical day at school was as follows:

"A typical day in Talas starts in the dormitory room at 6.30 in the morning. The alarm clock ringing at 6.30 tries to wake the first group students to have breakfast. The fellow students get dressed and pay a special attention to being on time for breakfast. They begin to have breakfast at 7.00 and finish it at 7.45. The morning study period starts at 8.00 and it goes on until 8.25.

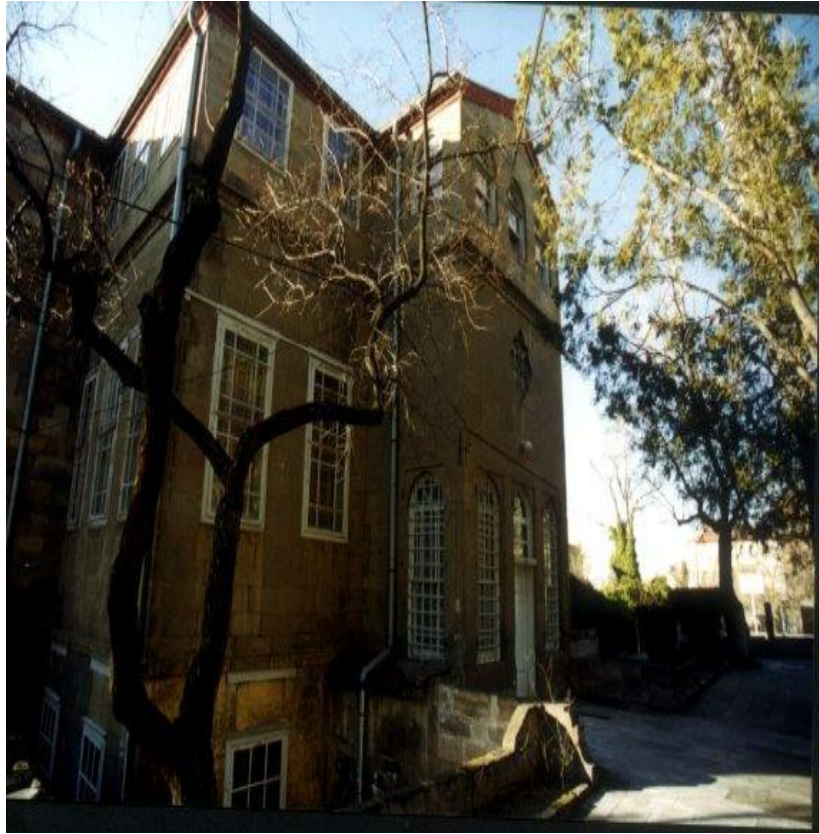


Figure: Kayseri American College

Lessons start at 8.30, and they continue until noon. We have four classes in the morning. Each lesson lasts forty-five minutes. There is a five-minute break between the first two lessons. However, we have a 15-minute break after the second lesson. We heartily listen to the teacher in lessons since all challenging lessons are in the morning. Our friends enjoy the morning lessons very much because they mindfully attend the lessons in the morning. The first group has lunch at 12.00, and the second group has it at 12.30. The meals served at lunch are always fatty food with meat. Such meals are the ones that make the fellows sleep most. Therefore, our friends are mostly sleepy in the afternoon lessons, which start at 12.55 in the afternoon. We have four lessons in the afternoon. However, in the eighth one every fellow goes to the club which he is a member of. The most active lesson in the afternoon is the eighth one. Every fellow student studies with pleasure and enjoys himself during this time. All lessons end at 4 pm., and all fellows are free after the lessons. Some of them study their lessons, while some others joke around with their friends or play games. Following the lessons, league matches commence in our school divided into four leagues. In one corner of the sports hall, the school team practices, and in another one, exhilarating league matches go on. Even fights were seen in some league matches. A long line of students is formed in front of the bathroom after such league matches. All fellows feel the need to have a bath since they sweat. Dinner is served between 7 and 8 pm. After dinner, all students begin studying at 8 pm. Students spare one hour between 9 and 10 pm for cleaning and getting prepared for the bed. They go to bed at 22.00.



Figure: Kayseri American College

As Banner notes in the 1960-1961 yearbook, the names of school administrators and teachers were as follows (Özsoy, 1996): Everett Blake (Principal), William Dizney (Deputy Principal), Mustafa Dülgeroğlu (Turkish Deputy Principal), James Johnson (Maths and English), Mary Lou Johnson (Music), Wailliam Ludwig (English), Charles Farrand (English), Wallece Robeson (English), Ruth Robeson (English), Alex Pogirski (Science), Carol Pogirski (Maths), Robert Kinsey (Sports), Faruk Yüce (History), Adnan Ertuna (Geography), Hilmi Karatan (Turkish), Remzi Dinçol (Turkish), Hikmet Par (The Person in Charge of External Affairs), Halit Sayan (The Person in Charge of the Study Hall), Mary Lou Winkler (Music), Dr. Desmion Dizney (Consultant), Mustafa Çiniliç (Theology), Dr. Warren Winkler (School Doctor), Genevieve Dunaway (School Governess), Costance Keck (Librarian), Dallas Keck (Canteen Keeper), Aydemir Özkan (Accountant), Ümit Altuner (School Secretary).

In the yearbooks of American School, Banner noted that the school was managed by American principals between the years 1928-1967. American principals that worked at this school between the years 1928-1967 are as follows (Özsoy, 1996): Paul E. Nilson, Harriet E. Nilson, Paul. E. Nilson, John W. Scott, William A. Edmonds, John W. Scott, Everett C. Blake, Robert Keller, Frederick D. Shepard, Wallece M. Robenson, Richard E. Maanard, Everett C. Blake.

As it is seen, the management was constantly changed at the school, which was directed by the same principal several times. Talas American School, which experienced various difficulties, was closed in 1967, and it transferred its program to Tarsus American High School in the same year (Öztürk ve Yıldız, 2007:93).

Talas American School remained unused for a while after it was closed in 1967. Its building, which was used as the camping and educational facilities of Kayseri Provincial Directorate of Youth and Sports for a while, is used as social facilities of Erciyes University today.

Health Services Provided By Protestant American Missionaries in Talas

Doing activities in the field of health, missionaries dealt with the most sensitive problem of the countries which they saw as an area of their potential span. American missionaries founded and efficiently run hospitals in Kayseri. In fact, health services are among the activities of missionary schools. Kocabaşođlu says the following about health services 1827 (Kocabaşođlu, 1989:127):

"Because Jesus Christ used a part of his divine power to heal patients, it is natural that medical help and cure are an indispensable part of missionary activities. Therefore, activities in this field started as soon as missionary activities were launched. Dr. Asa Dodge, who came from Beirut in 1933, was the first missionary doctor to be seen in the land of Ottomans. Dr. Dodge, who went to Jerusalem one year later, caught typhus fever and died in the holy land in 1835. In the following years, doctors like Dr. Cornelius Von Dyke (1840), Dr. Azariah Smith (1843), Dr. Asakel Frant, Dr. Henry Lobdel and Dr. Feorge E. Post served as ambulant doctors in various parts of the Ottoman land. However, systematic work in medical cure and aid was delayed until the system that enabled doctors to be educated in the practical area, and it gained momentum beginning with the 1880s."



Figure: Talas American Hospital
(<http://www.talas.bel.tr/resimgalerisi/pages/amerikanhastanesi.htm>)

The missionary clinique launched its activities in 1887. Though this hospital initially provided medical service only for Armenians, Rums and the students at this school, Turkish patients began to apply to this hospital more and more frequently since there were not medical institutions in the area for Muslims. As a matter of fact, 1200 patients in 1887, 4236 patients in 1889 and 5214 patients in 1892 were cured in this clinique in Talas. 7729 patients were treated in 1900, and three-thirds of the expenses for these services were collected from the patients 1827 (Kocabaşođlu, 1989:128).

American missionaries continued to provide medical service from the declaration of the republic to 1938. Health services provided by missionaries during this period are as follows (Turan, 2000):

Health Statistics (1923-1938)

Years	Hospital and Dispensary	American Doctor	American Nurse	Total Number of Patients	Total Number of Treatments
1923-24	7	10	5	13.433	56.889
1924-25	10	9	4	20.442	65.778
1925-26	8	8	3	8.425	26.290
1926-27	8	8	4	9.811	19.975
1927-28	8	10	7	10.684	61.657
1928-29	7	9	8	18.126	25.468
1929-30	6	9	8	6.297	29.645
1931-32	7	9	8	13.166	26.969
1932-33	7	8	8	11.062	24.953
1933-34	7	8	7	10.653	24.142
1934-35	5	8	5	14.200	27.332
1935-36	5	8	5	16.980	43.044
1936-37	5	8	5	18.907	49.751
1937-38	4	7	3	21.16	33.488

As it is seen above, 4 hospitals were in service in Turkey until 1938. One of these hospitals is the one in Talas. Dr. Dodd said the following in the general report of 1930 about the hospital in Talas (Özsoy, 1996):

"American Board Hospital in Talas has left another hopeful year behind in the heart of Anatolia. After a six-month lag, the hospital was reopened for service in 7th January, 1930. The hospital is welcoming a new year with the hope that it will serve the people in the area better.

Medical work was first launched by my father Dr. William S. Dodd in 1890. Under his management, the hospital provided service until 1911, and it was taken over by others several times until 1930 including Turks. Later, it was handed over to the Board and it continued under the management of Dr. Clark. I was in charge of running the hospital when Dr. Clark went to his homeland.

It was a great pleasure for me to assume responsibility over the work launched by my father and to harvest the fruits of the seeds that he planted. Almost all the people coming to the clinique have either heard of his fame or knew him in person. Most of these were patients who were previously treated by my father. I had the chance to operate on two patients who were operated on by my father years ago. I was told stories of his magnanimity and extraordinary affection by many people as if he was a legend. I experienced what he did nearly every day again and again.

The current hospital is an old building far from ideal. The beautiful building constructed by my father burnt to ashes a few years ago. Now we expect to have the permission of the Board to use one of the empty buildings of Girls' School. We can convert this beautiful empty building of Girls' School into a permanent hospital with 25 beds by spending 10.000 dollars. We are expecting to make the arrangements this summer. Now the hospital has 30.000 dollars in cash collected from various sources. We will keep one-thirds of it for donations. We will allocate one-thirds of it for later

developments. We will use the remaining one-thirds for the arrangement of the new buildings and buying the necessary equipment. This amount is enough for urgent needs. Recommended list of requirements is as follows:

<i>Electric Fridge</i>	<i>500 Dollars</i>
<i>Bed and Blanket</i>	<i>300 Dollars</i>
<i>Kitchen Arrangement</i>	<i>100 Dollars</i>
<i>Environmental planning</i>	<i>100 Dollars</i>
<i>Furniture for American Nurses</i>	<i>200 Dollars...</i>

As it is seen, the hospital was being used together with the school. The hospital's 1930 report gives detailed information about the subordinates of the hospital, treatments provided and the budget (Özsoy, 1996).



Figure: In this photo taken in 1909 by Mrs. Gertrude Bell, a panoramic view of Talas and the garden of Talas American Hospital are seen.

(<http://wowturkey.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=8797>)

The Operations Carried out at this Hospital in 1930:

Colostomy	1
Arthrodesis	14
Repair of the urethra	5
Closed repair of the femur fracture	1
Appendicitis operation	1
Bowel obstruction	2

D and C (Abortion)	8
Vaginal repair	1
Hernia surgery	13
Gynaecologic repair	1
Glandular operations	4
Fixing femur fractures	1
Operations of tonsils and nasal tonsils	10
Fixing burnt lips	1
Tumour removal from foot	1
Removal of Apre	4
Achilles tendon repair	1
Bullet removal	1
Haemorrhoids surgery	3
Gall bladder removal	2
Resection of the prostate	1
Nasal operation	1
Breast removal	1
Operation of the opening of the abdomen	6
Removal of fibroid tumours	1
Amputation of the limbs	4
Amputation of a leg and arm	2
Removal of testicles	1
Knee cap operation	1
Removal of bladder stones	1
Total	95

The distribution of incoming patients in 1930 was as follows:

Surgical	120
Medical treatment	82
Pregnancy	5
Gynaecology	6
Otorhinolaryngology	11
Birth	5
Total	229
Bed capacity	22
Surgery	95
Death	17

Health services that were launched by American missionaries in Talas in 1887 turned into a health institution with beds from clinical service and this service continued until 1914. Because the number of health institutions is on increase since 1967, the number of doctors and other employees working in American Hospital has decreased over the years. It was finally closed in 1972. The hospital buildings are currently used as the social facilities buildings at Erciyes University. However, Talas Municipality bus stop located near these buildings is still called "Hospital Stop." (Özsoy, 1996)

Conclusion

As a result of the analysis of American Archive documents, we can say that missionaries implemented an intensive working plan in Kayseri. They continued educational and health activities with missionaries, teachers and health personnel in Kayseri Station, which was founded in 1854.

As a part of educational activities, Kayseri American College, Talas American College and Talas American Males School were prominent. Students with different nationalities and religious backgrounds received education in these schools.

When health services are examined, it is seen that 4 hospitals continued their activities until 1938. One of these hospitals was the one in Talas. The missionary clinic in Talas started its activities in 1887. Though this hospital initially served particularly Armenians and Rums and the students at American schools, gradually more Turkish patients applied to this hospital since there were no health institutions serving the Muslims in the area.

In conclusion, it is possible to say that the activities of American missionaries were effective in Kayseri as they were in other parts of Anatolia in the last century of the Ottoman Empire. The historical documents that belong to this period indicate that missionaries were active in various areas, and they hardly encountered significant challenges.

References

- P.A.B.C.F.M., Reel 582 Document Number: 4, 9, 10
P.A.B.C.F.M., Reel: 596 Document Number: 263
P.A.B.C.F.M., Reel 599 Document Number: 558
P.A.B.C.F.M., Reel 600 Document Number: 491
P.A.B.C.F.M., Reel 618 Document Number: 132, 134, 138, 139
P.A.B.C.F.M., Reel 628 Document Number: 141, 145, 146, 162, 166, 207, 209
Ertuğrul Halit, (2002). *Kültürümüzü Etkileyen Okullar*, İstanbul: Nesil Basım Yayın
Kocabaşoğlu, Uygur, (1989). *Kendi Belgeleriyle Anadolu'daki Amerika*, İstanbul
Kocabaşoğlu Uygur, (2000). *Anadolu'daki Amerika*, Ankara: İmge Kitabevi
Özsoy, Hasan, (1996). *Kayseri'de Amerikan Misyoner Faaliyetleri ve Talas Amerikan Koleji*,
Kayseri: Talas Belediyesi Kültür Yayınları.
Öztürk Ayhan ve Özgür Yıldız (2007). *Amerikan Protestan Misyonerlerin Türkiye'deki
Faaliyetleri*, İstanbul: Arka Oda Yayınları
Taşdemirci Ersoy, (2001). "Türk Eğitim Tarihinde Azınlık Okulları ve Yabancı Okular,
Erciyes Üniversitesi Sosyal Bilimler Enstitüsü Dergisi, S.10, Kayseri
Tozlu Necmettin, (1991). *Kültür ve Eğitim Tarihimizde Yabancı Okullar*, Ankara: Akçay
Yayınları
Turan Ömer, (2000). "Atatürk Döneminde Türkiye'de Amerikan Misyonerlik Faaliyetleri",
Atatürk Araştırma Merkezi, Atatürk 4. Uluslar arası Kongresi, Volume I, Ankara, pp.
457-496.
Turan Ömer, (2002). *Avrasya'da Misyonerlik*, Ankara: Avrasya Stratejik Araştırma Merkezi
Yayınları
"Tarihe 1000 canlı Tanık", <http://www.milliyet.com.tr/2003.10.16/pazar/paz13.html>.
<http://wowturkey.com/forum/viewtopic.php?t=8797> on 16th October, 2008
<http://www.talas.bel.tr/resimgalerisi/pages/amerikanhastanesi.htm> on 16th October, 2008.