

We cannot report any conversions as yet among the girls, but there have been many little things which tell of deepened interest and breaking down of old prejudices, while the teacher, a young woman of a class rather superior to the girls, seems to be a sincere inquirer, and the Bible-woman says she feels sure she will "soon decide to be a Christian." We are praying that this hope may be fulfilled, as the influence of this teacher over the girls is very strong, and I feel that her decision would be a help to many.*

One little thing that pleased us very much was a request from the girls themselves in June, that the hour of the Sunday School might be changed to an earlier one, that they might thus be able to attend church at our central preaching place, a thing that we had not required of them as it meant an extra two miles walk for most of them. The change was made, and since then there have seldom been less than ten, often fifteen or more of the girls present, adding to the interest of the morning service by filling up the woman's corner and joining in the singing, and repeating of the Lord's Prayer.

As an instance of how this work appears to those who are trying to carry on similar work here, in conversation not long since with a lady of another mission, she asked me to tell her just what was the nature of the work which we had at Kawakami, of which she had heard a little. As I told her more fully about it she expressed her approval of the methods employed very freely, and when I had finished both she and her husband said that they would consider it a great cause for congratulation and thankfulness could they but obtain such a hold upon the girls in a certain factory where they have been trying for some time past to get permission to hold a weekly meeting.

I cannot but feel that to give up this class now would be deliberately closing an opened door, and a door for whose opening much prayer has been made.

I trust that this explanation may help to make our work here more real to those who may be interested in it at home, and that all may join us in praying and looking for a rich harvest from the seed now being sown.

*This teacher has since decided to become a Christian. See MONTHLY LETTER for January.