

faithfully from my youth." Mrs. Ushioka explained more of the Bible to her, and she gave her name for baptism. Soon as Mrs. U. left she prepared some peculiar kind of pink rice, and made a last offering to her former gods, saying:—"Here I bring you this last offering; this is good-bye; I have found a new and better God; you have been good to me in the past, but for the future I don't want to have anything more to tell you." Since she was baptized I went to visit her, and had a long talk with her. She was very happy; said she has no troublesome thoughts now since she had been baptized. The grandmother said there was indeed a great change in her mother's life, and in her own also, although as yet she had not given her name for baptism, but she must do so. I see them at church every Sunday. They said they hated the cards they used to love to play so much. Before we left we sang and had prayer; the old lady closed by leading in the Lord's Prayer. She was just able to lisp out the words. When we got to the door, she told me how she used to pray to the sun, saying over and over many thousand times a day a few words, not knowing what they meant. But now there was such a great difference, she understood what her prayers meant when she prayed to the God of the Bible. They seemed to think we had honored them by our visit. We felt we had a blessing ourselves in trying to do what we could to encourage them.

One of our young evangelists was married in the church last week. We had an invitation, so all went. You know how anxious they are to have foreign ideas; so we told them all to stand as the bride and groom entered the church, etc. Mr. Cassidy played a wedding march, "Home, Sweet Home." This was only the third marriage they have had in the church.

There is great distress just now among the poorer class, owing to the rise in the price of rice, and also the lack of work. Many are even starving to death, and some have been known to sell their last garment in order to buy food. We do not see so much of it out here. The worst cases are in Tokyo and Yokohama.

It is almost a year since I arrived in Japan. It seems so short. It has brought me many new experiences. They have taken me to heights and depths I had never reached before, yet I feel I have only had a taste of the pleasures and joys in store for those who live near to God. I understand now "we must work if we would grow."

When you say "Our Father," especially remember my work, and the Sunday-school at Hirona Mura.