

regarded (and soon learns to regard himself) as a species of superior being, brings with it great moral dangers. Or, again, that freed from home and family ties, which he would not have thought of shaming in his native land, and, perhaps, as a compensation in return for being deprived of those home ties, the foreigner thinks himself at liberty to launch out on this or that or every species of vice. Or, again, that being in a country and society where vice is financially cheap, and all but socially honored, makes it difficult to keep himself free from the filth; or, as is more probable, it may be something of all these combined which brings so many foreign residents and frequenters of eastern ports down to their present level.

I do not know, and it is outside the purpose of the present paper to discuss the reason; but the fact remains that many of them are very bad, and continual accounts, even to the most disgusting particulars, find their way in exaggerated form into the columns of the native papers. There seems to be no law in Japan about obscene native literature, or, if there is, it is seldom enforced, perhaps, because the papers are rarely read by women; and when you know that there is scarcely a village of two thousand inhabitants throughout the land which does not take its regular newspaper, the result may be imagined. Those about whom these reports are spread are set down by the Japanese as Christians, their class as a sample of the ordinary society of a Christian land, and their deeds, which outdo the worst of the heathen, as the legitimate fruit of Christianity.

It is true that many of these profligates are honest enough to confess themselves atheists, and they soon learn to dislike the missionary—about the greatest honor they could confer on him, by the way—and say all sorts of hard things of him; for the missionary's life and work are a standing rebuke to his own. But these latter points are generally overlooked by the natives, and Christianity is credited with them all. Over and over again are we asked by Japanese to explain these things on the part of foreigners and Christians—the Christian convert making the request with a pained and doubting face, for he has himself been taunted about it by his heathen relatives and friends; but the heathen usually refers to these "foreign Christians" in the ports with an air of triumph.

Among these foreign residents is represented every nation of any importance, and many of comparatively small importance; and this motley group of nationalities only seems to make things worse—not only so far as the foreigner's individual self-respect is concerned, but the Japanese also seem to look upon it as proof that such things are general throughout Christendom.

It would be as improper as it is unnecessary to particularize these evils; but, as one of

Yokohama's foreign newspapers some time ago, in an editorial on Monte Carlo's vice, stated that in proportion to numbers there were probably more suicides and murders among Yokohama's foreign population in a year than at the fashionable European gambling den, some idea may be obtained of their extent.

All are not so. There are many noble men, and more noble women, among the merchant and official class of each port, whose lives seem to shine more brightly from contrast with the class referred to above. Would that that class were extinct!

(To be continued.)

Woman's Auxiliary Department.

"The love of Christ constraineth us."—II. Cor. v. 14.

Communications relating to this Department should be addressed to Mrs. A. E. Williamson, 83 Wellesley Street, Toronto.

A meeting of the Provincial Board of Management was called by the president, and held in Holy Trinity schoolhouse on Thursday and Friday, Sept. 14 and 15. The members of the board met at a celebration of the Holy Communion at 11.30 on Thursday morning; the rector of Holy Trinity, Rev. J. Pearson, being the celebrant, and also addressing most helpful words to those present.

The branch in connection with the above church furnished a most generous luncheon for the board on both days. Eighteen members of the board were present, Hon. President Mrs. Lewis, President Mrs. Tilton, two vice-presidents, the corresponding and Dorcas secretaries, three diocesan officers from Toronto, three from Huron, three from Niagara, one from Ontario, and one from Quebec diocese; also the convener of the Junior Standing Committee, who is, *ex officio*, a member of the board. Montreal was not represented.

The reports received from the officers and committees were very encouraging. Much good has been done, but there is very much more waiting to be done. The board had the pleasure of listening to Mrs. Sillitoe, of New Westminster, and Mrs. Sullivan, of Algoma, both of whom addressed the meeting.

In the unavoidable absence of the general recording secretary, the board elected Mrs. Cummings, secretary of Toronto diocese, to act as recording secretary, which she did to the complete satisfaction of the board.

It was decided that for the future the general corresponding secretary shall receive and publish all appeals for money, missionary intelligence, etc., etc., which is intended for the Woman's Auxiliary Department of the CANADIAN CHURCH MAGAZINE AND MISSION NEWS.

The well-known hospitality of the Toronto Branch made the visit of the members of the