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If the General Secretary, who visited this summer, by order of the General Board, our Missions in Japan, has been enabled to carry out his plans he will be on his journey homeward. He intended to sail (D.V.), some time about the 25th July; and if so, will reach Toronto toward the end of August. Judging from the brief letters received from him at the Mission Rooms, he is having a pleasant, but very busy time. A letter, which reached the office on the 21st ult., stated that he and Dr. Macdonald were leaving Tokyo on a tour of inspection, hoping to visit most, if not all, of our missions before their return.

REV. J. LAWRENCE, on the Alderville Indian Mission, sends us the following item, which affords us great pleasure to publish: "I have closed my school to-day. We had a public examination to close up with, and the visitors present seemed much pleased with the result. One of the Indian scholars has carried off the prize offered by the Witness for the county of Northumberland. This was a prize offered last winter to every school in the Dominion, encouraging them to write stories or essays on pioneer life. The best from each school was to receive the Northern Messenger for one year. The best for each county, 'Macaulay's History of England, \$5. This has been awarded to Miss Kate Franklin, of our school, for the county of Northumberland. Surely this is not bad for an Indian pupil and an Indian school!" We congratulate Miss Kate Franklin on her success, and pray that she may consecrate her talents to God and the uplifting of her people.

WE take the following figures from the report of the Rev. Jas. Woodsworth, Superintendent of Missions in the North-West, which show the rapid development of the work in Manitoba since the formation of the Conference in 1884:—

	1884.	1889.	Increase.
Circuits and Missions	54	113	59
Self-sustaining Circuits	5	35	30
Ministers, Preachers and Supplies	68	130	62
Churches	40 24	81	41
Preaching Appointments		57 424	33
Total Membership	3,215	8,825	125 5,610

While the increase in moneys raised for connexional purposes is \$8,744.74.

REV. E. B. GLASS, our faithful and energetic missionary at Battle River, was in the city for a few weeks, combining business with pleasure; while visiting friends, he was correcting proof of Cree text-books in the syllabic characters, for the use of Indian schools. Bro. Glass left on the 13th ult. for home.

WE clip the following from the Christian Advocate, published in Tokyo, Japan:—

" Azabu Methodist Church has progressed so far that the walls have been raised to some height above the ground, and the corner-stone was laid on the 11th May. It was a very delightful as well as successful service. About two hundred people turned out. The girls of To-yo Eiwa Jo-gakko brought beautiful banners with inscriptions from the Scriptures on them; and the boys of To-yo Eiwa Gakko made a large ensign and a large tablet with different inscriptions from the Scriptures on them also. Rev. Y. Hiraiwa superintended the service, and Sh. Saito, Esq., the private Secretary to the Minister of State for Commerce and Agriculture, as well as the Superintendent of the Bureau of Commerce, who was recently converted and baptized (he, and his wife the next day) made an acceptable speech; and the Rev. Dr. Cochran laid the stone. Collection and subscriptions were taken on the ground, which amounted to the sum of 228 yen.

"The size of the church will be 54 ft. by 66 ft. and 27 ft. high above the ground, with bell tower in the front, with galleries on the three sides; and it will accommodate about 850 people comfortably. The estimated cost of building is 4,861 yen, and the whole probable cost of building and its furnishings, with additional expense of building a Sunday-school house 30 x 42 ft., and a parsonage, both of which are of wooden frame, will be 6,950 yen. We have to raise the sum of 1,500 yen here in Japan to complete the work, so that any help toward that is acceptable. It is expected to have the work finished by the middle of September."

Ferris Seminary, Tokyo, Japan, has had additions which considerably more than double the capacity, The new buildings are to be known as Van Schaick Hall, in honor of Miss Van Shaick, Albany, N.Y., who has contributed largely toward the fund for their erection. The formal open was on the 1st June, the fourteenth anniversary of the establishment of the