

be disposed to help us. I got her to write to this gentleman. Writing went on for some time—Japanese always move slowly. Not until the 18th of October were we at liberty to go up and complete the arrangements for our meetings. We found Mr. Kuabara very pleasant and cordial indeed. He seemed rather troubled because there were no women out to meet us.

As our time was limited, after a little conversation with him we excused ourselves and went to call at the home of one of our girls, but not before promising to return to Mr. Kuabara's, as he said, "the women were coming out sometime," and he wished us to meet them.

We had a long ride through the city to Mr. Amano's home. O Yuse San, his eldest daughter, is one of our cleverest girl, and also one of our brightest Christians. We found both Mr. and Mrs. Amano at home. Had a very pleasant visit. Before we left we were most agreeably surprised to hear him say he had heard of our coming to Shimada, through his daughter. He then said if we wished to have his house to hold our meetings in we would be perfectly welcome, and also if he could render us any assistance in any way he would be most happy if we would let him know. Mr. Kuabara had not said as much as that he would open his house for the meetings, but we expected he intended to do so. We could only thank Mr. Amano for his very kind offer and tell him we had been corresponding with Mr. Kuabara and expected to hold the meetings at his house. He replied that he knew Mr. Kuabara very well, and that they would work together to help us.

Mr. Amano is a political man—was a member of the Senate until this year. His house is one of the richest Japanese houses I have been in.

When we returned to Mr. Kuabara's we found six girls (I cannot call them women, though some of them were married) waiting. We arranged to have two meetings a month—one at each place—Mr. Kuabara's and Mr. Amano's.

I could not but think that the Lord had indeed opened up the way for us, and had given us marked encouragement from the first. My prayer is that He may be with me in a very special manner in my work there, and may I be found both faithful and earnest.

I am enjoying the work more and more as the terms go by.