

Kawamura, has been in America, and spent a couple of years at school in Ann Arbor, Michigan. While there he lived with a religious family, who took him to the class-meeting and to Sunday-school. Shortly after his return to Japan I became acquainted with him, and invited him to my services. He soon became a candidate for baptism, and in due time—in company with a fellow-student who had also become a believer—he was received into the Church. He is an only son, and greatly beloved by his father, who was an officer of some rank under the late Tycoon. We feared he might oppose his son's course; but, instead of doing so, he gave his full consent, and even came to see him baptized. We are not without hope that he may yet follow his son's footsteps, for though he does not attend Christian services, he reads the Bible in Chinese, and listens with interest to all his son tells him about the Christian religion.

CLASS-MEETINGS.

About three months ago we organized our Church, and appointed Mr. K. J. Nakamura leader, and his son steward. They enter into the spirit of class-meeting exercise quite readily, and speak and pray with freedom and propriety. They at once began to arrange for the payment of class-money. What they raise will be applied towards the contingent expenses of our worship and the support of native agency when the time comes to employ such. Of course the sum raised will be inconsiderable for some time, as none of the members are rich. But it is well to recognize the principle and establish the precedent of contributing from the very beginning for the support of the gospel. There seems to be a strong disposition amongst all the native converts in Japan to cultivate the principle of self-support, so far as the propagation of the gospel by *native* agency is concerned. And we feel that it is well to encourage them in this.

We have now eighteen names in our class book, but three of the members are in America at present; we

retain their names however, as we hope to see them among us again in due time. One, Mr. S. Kodzu, is attending the "State Normal School," in the city of Albany, N. Y. He writes often and tells of regular attendance at class-meeting, prayer-meeting, and Sunday-school. He expects to be absent about two years, and thinks of visiting Toronto during his next summer vacation. I am sure you will give him a hearty welcome, if he calls upon you. He is a man of good intellectual ability, a fair scholar, quite unassuming, and a person of great moral worth. He was chosen by the Educational Department of Japan, and sent to pursue his studies in America, with a view to qualification for the work of Normal School training in his own country. The other two young men, Mr. Lawara and Mr. Akusawa, have gone as attaches of the Japanese Commission to the Centennial Exhibition, to be held in Philadelphia next summer. They are each engaged for one year.

NATIVE PREACHERS.

I have a regular Sabbath afternoon service in my own house, conducted wholly in the native tongue: and there are seven of the members who prepare short discourses, under my supervision, which they deliver at this service, each taking a Sabbath in turn. By the help of the members inviting their friends and acquaintances we get quite a large number of people who listen with great attention to the preaching of the word. We are not permitted yet to go out into the streets to proclaim the glad tidings; but we can use our own hired house for this purpose, "no man forbidding us."

One of the young men whom I baptized over a year ago—Mr. Asagawa—is now devoting all his time to the study of the Bible and theology. He lives near me and comes in several times a week for instruction; nor does he spend all his time in study merely; he invites the people to his private room, and there he preaches the gospel to them every evening. He is a good Japanese and Chinese scholar and knows enough of English to make