

missions do not succeed? How can it be said that they do not, even in our own day, work miracles; that they do not produce enormous results, results which we in our impetuosity sometimes overlook, but results which, if we would look, we should see to be indeed God's doing, and bearing the distinct impress of His leading.—*Bishop of London.*

From a most interesting letter written by the Bishop of Melanesia, dealing with a voyage among the many islands of his diocese, we give the following extracts: "We had," he writes, "a wonderful voyage. Everything persisted in turning out well for us—fair winds, easy landings, hearty welcomes, increased earnestness, and great brightness everywhere; boys and girls given to us where we have never been given them before. There has been great progress in Raga, Maewo, and Mala, the faith having spread and taken root in quite heathen parts of these islands. In Opa, the people are very wild, and the complete separation of the sexes makes it very difficult to make much progress, the native customs almost forbidding the women and girls to come to school. At Lanana, in Opa, I baptized fifty people, nearly all men, on Trinity Sunday, and I am certain I never saw people more earnest than they were. Poor souls, trouble soon afterwards fell on them, for the white trader who lived with them was killed by a bushman of the country beyond them, and a man-of-war quickly appeared and burnt down a considerable part of the Christian village because they had failed to protect him. This is the second trader killed in Opa this year. Work in the Bank Islands goes on quietly. Most of them are Christians now, but that does not mean by any means that the battle is over there any more than it is over in Christian England. . . . Santa Maria has a large population of heathen still, especially in the Gana district; but in all the other islands in the Banks Christianity has been accepted, and heathenism has become extinct, except in rare cases. . . . In Mala there is great progress amidst great difficulties. The island is a sort of South Sea Benin; on every side there are horrors of bloodshed and murder, but the little patch of Christendom extends itself everywhere, and as it grows it becomes respected and is allowed to pursue its way in peace. . . . At Bugotu I confirmed nearly a hundred persons. The people were doing very well and very much in earnest everywhere. Soga, the chief, is a splendid Christian, teaching his people and translating the Scriptures for them, besides ruling them with a firm hand, and in times of danger fighting for them. He and two hundred of his men had completely surrounded a band of head-hunters from Rubiana

just before I arrived at Bugotu this year, and had read them a lesson that they probably will not forget. He gave them their lives, but they told their friends that they had been all dead men before Soga. Amongst those whom I confirmed was the chief. We returned to Norfolk Islands in the shortest time on record—three weeks, feeling very much as the Seventy must have felt one thousand eight hundred years ago."

CANADIAN CHURCH MEDICAL MISSION. JAPAN.

REPORT OF MISS SMITH.

Nagano, Shinano, Japan, January, 1898.

IT is most gratifying to be able to report that in every way our work was more successful in 1897 than in the previous year. This is due, in a great measure, to our removal last May, to a large, convenient building in one of the busiest quarters of the town, where the work is brought before the notice of all classes. We would also add that since the doctor in charge became a Christian, just one year ago, he has taken an increased interest in the dispensary and the outside charity cases.

Eight hundred and fifty-four new patients, who paid 6,871 visits to the dispensary, were treated during the year, and 831 visits were paid by the doctor to patients in their own homes. The poor are treated free of charge, but those who can afford it, pay a small sum for medicine, and during the past six months we have taken in enough money to pay for the entire cost of the drugs used.

From the Canadian Board of Missions, the medical work receives eighty pounds a year, which supports a Japanese doctor, two certificated nurses, three student nurses, and a matron, but leaves nothing for drugs or appliances. These have been supplied by the money received from patients, donations from "foreigners" in Japan, and "special sums" sent from Canada. The entire cost of the medical work does not exceed one hundred and twenty-five pounds a year.

On December 29, one nurse who had completed the two years' course of instruction, received a certificate, and has since joined a Nurses' Association in Tokyo, promising to come back to us if the work should so increase that her help would be needed. The three young women in the school will not graduate until two years from this autumn, and it is hoped that their training may, in part, take place in the hospital which the Woman's Auxiliary of Canada contemplate building in Nagano this year.

Church services are held two evenings every week, in the waiting-rooms of the dispensary,