

gether at such times. On the same evening a meeting was held at Kaji, one of our way stations, and over 100 people came to hear us. The meeting was enjoyable, and we were asked to come again. Mr. Hara tells me that one or two young men are thinking seriously about Christianity. This is the first of occasional labors by Mr. Hara during the last nine months. Speaking of the difficulties and trials of those who take a stand for Christ, he says: Most of the Christians are young, and are surrounded and beset by opponents of Christianity. Charges of lack of patriotism, want of respect for parents, subjection to foreigners, etc., are continually hurled against young believers; and, of course, they are as false as they are numerous. Even little children are not exempt. The child who goes to Sunday school is tormented by his public school playfellows; and even by his teachers he is looked down upon. As a result of this, the Sunday school is practically closed. In view of these things we are thankful for the few young men who show no decline in their zeal for Christianity."

THE BLESSING OF NOT GETTING.

God is continually blessing us by suffering us not to do certain things which we greatly desire to do. He thwarts our worldly ambitions, because to permit us to achieve them would be to suffer our souls to be lost or seriously harmed. One desires worldly prosperity, but every effort in that direction is defeated. We speak of our failures as misfortunes, and wonder why it is that others less industrious and less conscientious succeed so much better than we do. We even intimate that God's ways are not equal. But no doubt the very disappointments over which we grieve are in reality the richest of blessings. God knows that the success of our plans would be fatal to the higher interests of our spiritual life. The best blessing God can bestow upon us is to suffer us not to prosper in our plans to gather riches and to attain ease.

To let men have what they want would be to open the gates of ruin and death for them. What they hunger for, thinking it bread, is but a cold stone. The path that to their eyes seems to be strewn with flowers and to lead to a paradise is full of thorns and leads to darkness and death. The things we crave and cry for, thinking to find sweet satisfaction in them, when gotten at last prove to be but bitter ashes.

"I think God sometimes sends us what we have cried for
 Year after year in vain;
 To prove to us how poor the things we've sighed for,
 And how beset with pain.
 The human heart can know no greater trial,
 Than comes with this confession,
 That the continued sorrow of denial,
 Was better than possession.

CONGREGATIONAL UNION IN LONDON.

Judging from the returns already to hand the attendance upon the meetings this year will be unusually large. However there will be ample accommodation for all, and we shall be glad to see everybody. A card will be sent to each pastor and delegate, giving name and address of their host, and if they will be good enough to send to the persons entertaining them a line to say by what train they expect to reach London, it will be deemed a great favor. We shall endeavor to meet all the principal trains, and give whatever information and aid may be required.

ROBT. AYLWARD.

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Now, will our young friends go to work!

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