

time wasted, by waiting for someone else to do something.

2. *Get them to read about Missions.*—The literature of missions is now very abundant, and much of it is highly fascinating. A liberal supply put into our Sunday-school libraries would bring about a much-needed revolution in the literary tastes of our young people, and produce a healthier type of Christian experience and life. To accomplish this all at once may be difficult,—nay, impossible; because a perverted taste is not easily changed, and scholars who have been fed for years on religious novels may consider missionary literature rather “slow;” but if pastor or teacher will take the trouble to read along missionary lines, and communicate to the scholars at intervals the results of their reading, they will find that in a short time the missionary books will be more sought after than any others in the library.

3. *Get them to pray about Missions.*—A Sunday-school missionary prayer-meeting once a month would be of incalculable benefit. The attendance, however, should be voluntary, and the exercises varied. A few appropriate verses from the Bible, frequent singing (hymns with a good missionary ring), missionary incidents read from book or paper, and all interspersed with short, earnest prayers, will make up a programme that in a short time will crowd the room with interested scholars. If some one remarks, just here, that such a programme would be a decided improvement on ordinary Church prayer-meetings, we have to admit that our proposal is open to that objection.

4. *Get them to give to Missions.*—This will be the outcome if the preceding hints are acted upon, and the habit of giving will, by reflex influence, increase the interest of the giver in the work. Perhaps this is where the mistake is sometimes made: we harp on the duty of giving, and many young people yield to the pressure and give; but where we do not supply the preliminary training by teaching them to think, and read, and pray about the cause, their benevolence has no sure foundation, and their transient zeal is apt to die out. But where we begin by imparting a knowledge of the work,—its needs, its claims, and the blessedness of a share in it,—we have a foundation that will not fail, and every appeal to sustain this heaven-ordained enterprise will open streams of perennial benevolence that will flow unchecked through the years.

#### INCIDENTS FROM JAPAN.

SOME weeks ago Bro. Correll, of the United States Methodist Episcopal Mission, who was at the time on a preaching tour through his district spent a few hours with us, being in the neighbourhood. In the course of conversation he related an interesting inci-

dent that had happened at the town where he was to preach that evening. It so interested me that I thought it would interest the readers of the OUTLOOK. It appears that the Buddhist priest had just died, and the chief men of the place met to consider what steps should be taken with regard to supplying his place. Several influential members of the Council were for abolishing the old religion and handing matters over to the “Yaso Ryo,” or Christian Church, and turning the temple into a school. They were outvoted; but the very fact that such a novel proposition was brought forward is, we think, a cheering sign of the times, and shows that the gospel leaven is working powerfully in Japan.

Another interesting incident came under my notice but a few days ago, in which a priest, writing to the Secretary of the Scripture Union of Japan,—for we have a union numbering some 4,500 members,—says: “I have been studying Christianity and believe it to be the true religion, but owing to certain difficulties which I cannot mention, I am unable at present to throw off Buddhism, though I hope to be able to ere long. Please ask the members of the Union to pray to God on my behalf that the difficulties blocking up my road to Christianity may be removed.”

C. T. C.

#### AN APPEAL FROM JAPAN.

THE following document from the Council of the Japan Mission was recently received at the Mission Rooms, with a request that it might be published in the connexional papers. It will be seen that this is not an application to the Missionary Board for a special grant, but rather an appeal to the Church at large for aid in carrying out Dr. Eby's project of a large central church or lecture hall in the city of Tôkyô, where the educated and influential classes could be reached by the Gospel. That large numbers of these can be reached if a suitable place is provided, there can be no doubt, for the trend of thought in Japan is now in favor of Christianity; but if the present opportunity be lost, the next swing of the pendulum may carry popular sympathy in an opposite direction. When Dr. Eby was in Canada he dwelt much upon the project referred to, and a number of special gifts were promised in aid. The document which we print below is from the Mission Council in Japan, showing that Dr. Eby's proposal is supported by the united judgment of all the missionaries:—

*The Council of the Japan Mission to the Missionary Society of the Methodist Church, Canada:—*

DEAR BRETHREN,—In coming before you with a special appeal for further help for your work in Japan, we wish it to be distinctly understood that we are not actuated in any way by a spirit of complaint, as