

words together into sentences, and then with painstaking patience committing the result to memory, am I able to say a very little to them. This is a language which, if I continue in my present manifold duties, will require for its mastery the study of many years.

Dr. McDonald is doing a grand work in Shidzuoka, the admiration of all Christian onlookers. I hear that he has now baptized eighty-six persons—a report, as regards numbers, and the time he has been there, such as no other Missionary in Japan can make. There is reason, however, to fear that his very devoted wife, a true Missionary of the Cross, has overworked herself.

Last Sabbath morning we had a Fellowship Meeting, which Mr. Yamanaka, of Shidzuoka, and Mr. Satow pronounced wonderful. Besides the members of my family, fifteen spoke, testifying to their faith in Christ. I have space to repeat only a few of the many good things that were said. Mr. Imai told us that he finds that, by the goodness of God's providence and the help of grace, he has power to control his worldly affairs and live a Christian life. Mr. Nakagawa expressed his confidence in the power of prayer, and said that he is trying to make use of it. Mr. Midzuno says that he is living, as far as he knows, an upright life, in humble dependence upon the merits of Christ. It was the gratifying testimony of Mr. Sugimura that a naturally fiery temper, which before he had faith in Christ was his master, since he was baptized he had received grace to control. Mr. Sugiyama said that the one thing which determined him to become a Christian was what he saw of the effects of Christianity. Buddhism proved itself to be an evil system by its bad effects. Christianity, he was sure, was a system of truth and goodness, because of what it accomplishes. And although he did not yet know much of the Bible, he was satisfied it was true, and he meant to be a Christian. Miss Aiso had heard the gospel before the present teacher came, but

because her parents were unbelievers, she had not thought much of it, but now since she had heard the gospel more fully, and had made up her mind to become a Christian, her father and friends were becoming Christians too. Dr. Kimura testified that years ago the reading of a book on Physiology, which contained reflections upon the evidences in the human frame of the handiwork of a wise Creator, and the subsequent study of a work on Metaphysics which treated of the vast capacities of the human soul, had so affected his mind and heart that he was prepared to receive Christianity when it came to tell him of the great Being who made both body and soul, and when they had fallen under the power of evil, redeemed them therefrom with His own blood. But I must not be tedious. In the evening Mr. Yamanaka preached to between three and four hundred people. They crowded the chapel to its utmost capacity; they filled the hall; they peered in from the grounds at the open windows. His text was: "Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell?" How they listened! The subject formed a suitable introduction to remarks which I made upon baptism—symbolical and real, the nature and value of each, and how we may attain the rich effusion of the Holy Spirit. Six persons were then baptized, among whom was Miss Aiso, the daughter of our leading physician, a young lady whose remarkable quickness of apprehension and excellent (I was going to say *English*) accent make her my most promising pupil. She has, too, good musical taste. In our religious meetings her voice is not heard in singing only. As you see from the foregoing she is not afraid to speak in Fellowship Meeting, and in prayer-meeting her voice is lifted up in earnest prayer. Our servant, who is a *Samurai*, but impoverished since the revolution, was also baptized, and seems to be deeply sincere.

Two days ago Mr. Miyaki, a very respectable gentleman, who lectures