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being worn out by long illness, we talked to him a little at a time ; and also, as he could not raise his voice, whenever answers were required of him, they were done by signs with his head. The members of the Church helped me in talking and praying for him. After a few days he was enabled to see the Gospel light clearly, and found his Saviour, and embraced Him dearly, and fully trusted in Him. He was baptized on his bed on the 29th Oct., by Dr. McDonald, who was then passing by on his official trip round the stations. He slept most peacefully, with face full of joy and smile, on the 3rd of November. The bystanders were greatly affected at the scene. His remains were buried according to our burial rite, by Rev. C. S. Eby, who also then passed by on his homeward way in his missionary trip round Kofu and Shidzuoka.

Eleven persons were baptized and received into the Church during the year, and the present membership is in all forty-five.

HASHIMOTO.

### HAMAMATSU.

Some members moved to Hamamatsu from Shidzuoka, and have become the seed of the Church. This was done through the conference at seventeen years of Meiji.

At first baptized members were eighteen in number, among whom, men, three ; women, six ; children, nine ; and two applications for baptism (men). Three were baptized this year, among whom, men, two ; woman, one ; and four applicants (men, three ; woman, one). All members, old and new, are twenty-seven. Their spiritual state is progressive, and they are very willing to keep God's law. They come to the church every Sabbath and read the Bible, and are seeking the salvation of their souls with burning hearts. They give their money willingly according to their condition.

Although it is the lack of our power that the progress of the Church is very slow, still there are some other causes. I will write to you one or two : Hamamatsu contains three thousand houses, and are full of false gods' temples, among these Shinshu and Nichirenschu each has six temples, their believers numbering one-fourth of the whole population. Three great churches were called Maruyama Kiokuai, Shinto Sakaki Kioknao, and Hansobō Kiomusho. Besides these there are four great temples in fifteen miles (Akihajinsha, Toyokawa Inari, Sanjakubō, Hanzohō). These gods are believed throughout Japan, and pilgrims are usually going or returning through Hamamatsu. If these pilgrims will not come continually the people of Hamamatsu will suffer poverty, because they can't get money that pilgrims spend on their journey. By this reason the people of Hamamatsu feel very thankful to the false gods that they call these pilgrims to come and spend their money on the way.

Christianity has received a very bad reputation here by the errors of Roman Catholicism that was preached and practised here more than ten years. By these hindrances it is very difficult to let the people