

diligently at the language and making some progress—so much progress, that I hope to give you some account shortly of an attempt to use it in my public services. I feel warranted, however, in continuing my English services, on account of the evident tokens of good which appear to result from them; and I am strongly of opinion that a permanent English service would be a great benefit to the cause of Christianity in this great capital, which is becoming more and more the centre of learning and intelligence in the empire. Hundreds of young men in the colleges here are receiving their instruction in science, history, law, mathematics, &c., &c., through the medium of the English language; and to them an English sermon is not without special attractions, and may become a means of doing much good. But more of this another time.

Continue to pray for us, that the word of God may have free course, and be glorified in the salvation of myriads in this populous empire, where, until recently, superstition reigned supreme.

As to the opening of the country we can say but little; the old restrictions remain. How long it may continue so, no one can tell. Yet we

have many opportunities of communication with the people in the Treaty Ports, which may be considered sufficient for the force at present in the field.

I should tell you, before closing, that Mrs. Cochran and my daughter conduct a Sunday School for Japanese girls on Sunday mornings, and with encouraging hopes of success. Most of the girls who attend the Day School come on Sundays, and sing our hymns very nicely. In addition to the Scripture lesson some of them take lessons in the Catechism, making considerable progress in committing it to memory. This, I am sure, will be good news to our Sunday School contributors and collectors at home, who take such lively interest in the great missionary cause.

You expressed a wish some time ago to have some explanation in English of the Japanese maps I sent you. I am now able to gratify your desire, so far as the map of Yedo is concerned. By the mail that carries this I send you a new map of Yedo, with full explanations in English, prepared by one of the professors in Kai-Sei-Gakko. I have marked upon it the place of our present residence, in "*Ko-ishi-Kawa*." Let me know if it reaches you safely.

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*From the Rev. DR. McDONALD, dated Shidzuoka, April 16th, 1875.*

A little more than a year ago we arrived in Shidzuoka, with the belief that the hand of Providence had guided us hither, and animated by a desire to be of some use to the people and of some service to the cause of Christ. In a measure our hopes have been realized, for our labour has not been in vain in the Lord.

On Sabbath, 19th April last [1874,] I commenced to teach the Bible here. Our first lesson was the Lord's prayer. There were seventeen young men present. The attendance during the year has varied from seventeen to thirty. On Sabbath, 27th Sept., eleven persons, as I wrote you at the time, were baptized, and a class was formed. Since then baptism has

been administered as I now indicate: In the month of October seven were baptized; November, one; December, one; January, three; and in March, three, making twenty-six who have professed faith in Christ, and have received baptism.

We have services in the morning and evening of each Sabbath, and our class-meeting is held on the evening of Wednesday of each week. It is, however, more of a prayer-meeting. We read a Scripture lesson together, and after explanatory remarks and conversation, six or eight of the young men offer prayer.

The class-leader, Mr. Tszuki, and the assistant, Mr. Tamanaka, are excellent men. Mr. Tszuki has ad-