

my companion, Mrs. Kuma, who is one of my teachers here in Osaka and is being trained for a Bible-woman. Those who have read Mr. Stock's "Japan and the Japan Mission," will, perhaps, remember an old lady of the name of Kuma, who was one of the first converts in Osaka, and her son, who was an army surgeon and died some years ago. This lady is the doctor's widow, and a nice lady-like person, a sincere Christian and very well fitted for a Bible-woman I believe. I shall probably go occasionally and stay some times in Fuchu. There is much openings for work, as the Christian women want further instruction, as well as those who desire to be baptized. I hope in the spring to pass my first examination and be able to talk a little. As soon as I know the language well enough I am to teach the Bible-woman: at present I can only study, but that is work enough, for the language is exceedingly difficult, but also very interesting.

Mr. Terasama, the native clergyman here had a rather strange story to tell when he came home from a tour into the country. He then paid a visit to his sister and brother-in-law, whom he had not seen for long. Now in this family there was a secret which Mr. Terasama's sister asked him to inquire into. The ancestor of his brother-in-law, who lived 250 years ago had made a voyage to Korea, and from there had brought home a holy relic, the secret of which he confided on his death-bed to his eldest son, with strict injunctions that no one but the head of the family should ever see the relic, which was locked up in a chest, and even he was only to do so once every year at midnight, and in secret. The last will of the dying man was faithfully fulfilled by all his descendants, who never revealed the secret except on their deathbed to their eldest son. Mr. Terasama's brother-in-law was now the head of the family, and his wife thought the secret might now be revealed, and asked her brother to prevail on her husband to show it to him. After a good deal of persuasion he consented, and what do you think it was? A copy of the Creed, the Lord's Prayer, some parts of the Gospels and I believe a crucifix. The ancestor had in Korea learnt to know the Christian religion from a Roman Catholic priest and had adopted it, but when he returned to his country, the terrible persecution which was going on totally exterminated Christianity in Japan, and as it would be certain death to declare himself a Christian he hit upon this plan for preserving in some way his faith, in his own family. His descendants had in the course of time lost all understanding of what the things really meant and only worshipped them as a kind of idol. We will hope that they soon will come to believe truly in the God of their ancestors.

I am alone at present, as Miss Julius has taken my place in Fukuyama, but she will probably return in a few weeks. I am looking forward very much to having Miss Tristram and Miss Japson here till they can get into their own house. It is

rather difficult to get accommodation for all the missionaries now. There are not many houses on the Concession, and we are not allowed to live anywhere else. I am very well and happy and am only longing for the time when I can begin to help in making the Saviour known to this people.

## CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY MISSION.

### BLOOD INDIAN RESERVATION.

TO THE EDITOR,—Will you kindly allow me once again through your valuable magazine to lay before the different branches of the Womans' Auxiliary to Missions the needs of the poor Indians on this Reserve, the largest Indian Reserve in Canada, there being 2,300 Blood Indians located here. The Blackfoot Reserve, the next largest, has 1,900, whilst the Piegans, for whom Rev. H. T. Bourne has lately pleaded, has 800.

Our hearts were cheered again and again last winter as our eastern friends so kindly came to our help, and not only did they help the poor Indians, but many helped the missionary, and I can assure you we were very grateful for the gifts enclosed for ourselves and our little ones. We can never repay our kind friends, but we know that our Blessed Lord and Master has noted the kind act and He will repay hundred fold. "God is not unrighteous that He will forget your works and labor that proceedeth of love, which love ye have showed for His name sake, who have ministered unto the saints and yet do minister." And as we do from our hearts thank our kind friends who in the past have so lovingly helped us, we ask them patiently to bear with us as we lay before them our requirements for the coming winter. First let me speak of our home for Indian girls. We have not yet received anything like the amount we require. All the sums received at present do not reach \$200, but we sincerely trust that at least \$800 will be forthcoming. In a letter written early in the year I appealed to the Sunday Schools and to the Womans' Auxiliary Mission, and though but few have answered that appeal I will not murmur. You have had a missionary pleading in your very midst and naturally he has gained your attention, but please don't forget those who cannot leave their work, and if we cannot personally plead with you, show that you appreciate our reason and send us what you might have been tempted to give had we called on you. We need still from \$800 to \$1,000 if we are to complete the buildings at once for the Home. But we are starting in another part of the Reserve a separate school for girls where the lady teacher will want to teach her class sewing, knitting, etc., in addition to the ordinary school lessons. For this work and for my dear wife's class of girls we need a good supply of material, *i. e.* dress goods, strong white cotton for underwear, and wincey, witney, serge, gingham or anything warm for dresses, also wool for knitting