

decreased by one, through the removal of one of our Christian women to another village. This poor woman has a drunken husband, and this year he has not allowed her to attend any of the church services, although she had hitherto been one of our most regular members. We frequently meet with such opposition. In Kofu, one of our former members, a young girl, gave up attending because her grandfather is very strongly opposed to Christianity, although her parents favor it, and intend, when the old people die, to become Christians, and I might instance further.

At our general meetings this winter we have sold over fifty Bibles, giving them at half-price to induce people to buy.

The Buddhists do not sit passively by and see our Christian work progress, without making some effort to stem the onward tide. One of our girls, Lei Tanaka, who has left the school, paid us a visit lately, and she told how the Buddhist priest had come to her father's house and asked him to set to his seal that he would not become a Christian, and he did so. The priests, it seems go only to the wealthy houses.

Last Saturday was a great gala day. It was the third day of the third month by the old calendar, the day of the feast of dolls. Originally, the intention of this feast was to teach girls the proper method of presenting food to people of honorable position. Now, however, it is nothing but a festival for girls. All through the country, dolls are set out in array and food placed before them, while the little girls have a happy time playing and feasting. The dolls used in this feast are not ordinary ones, but dolls sitting in state upon stands, doll servants, doll princes and princesses, robed and decked after the manner of old-time costume.

From Miss Hargrave.

Shimada is a city three stations west from here. There has never been any regular Christian worker stationed there, but there have been occasional meetings held.

Early in September I asked my teacher about this place, as I had two free Saturdays in the month I was looking out for new work. To my surprise, she told me she had once lived there. I asked if she could write to any one and inquire if there would be any prospect of our opening a woman's meeting. She said there were no Christians in the place, but she knew a Mr. Kuabara whom she thought might