

and most of the men have attended preaching. We have there the nucleus of a society, the two men of whose conversion I have spoken, and one other, being members of our church. I meet them in class at 6 a.m., the morning I leave for home, and find that the old Methodist plan works well.

With the Indians I have not had much to do, as there are none within fifty miles of us. A few Stonies have visited me several times. I baptized one of their children and gave them the sacrament at the commencement of the year.

The care with which these have preserved their tickets of membership, &c., is not less than wonderful. As I read the names of Rundle and Wolsey on those time-worn, oft-handled slips of paper, then look at the tattered garments of the bearers, and reflect on their mode of life, I can not but be persuaded that the hand of God was with those men, and that a remnant of this race shall be saved.

To conclude, we have all things

necessary, and many that contribute to comfort and convenience. The winter has been the most pleasant we have ever experienced; added to which the arrival of a monthly mail has made our position quite desirable.

Let not the Churches be moved with pity for us, but with love for the cause, that many prayers may reach the Master's ears, and that showers of blessings may be sent upon us in due season.

I expect yet to write of greater things.

P.S.—News of the sad fate of our beloved chairman has just reached us. His death is generally lamented, both in the Church and out of it. It is felt that a valuable friend and counsellor has been taken away.

On the night of the 24th January he was lost on the plains, and on 6th of February he was found about ten miles from where he had first lost his way, his eyes closed and his hands folded across his breast. Conflicting reports prevent my giving further particulars at present.

JAPAN.

A VERY important announcement is made in the following letter from the Rev. George Cochran, besides the cheering intelligence of his success as a Minister of Christ,—that of the abolition of the national holidays, which entrenched upon the Christian Sabbath, and the adoption, by Imperial authority, of the first day of the week as a day of rest. We have less to do with the motives which impelled the change, than with the change itself, for assuredly, under Providential guidance, it will minister to the usefulness of all Protestant Missionaries labouring in that vast Empire, and greatly promote the spiritual welfare of all Japanese converts.

From the Rev. GEO. COCHRAN, dated Yedo, March 22nd, 1876.

Since last writing, I have baptized six more persons in Yedo—four young men and two women (the wife and daughter of Mr. K. J. Nakamura). Three of the young men are students—undergraduates in the Imperial College. They are good English scholars, which adds greatly to my

opportunity of giving them religious instruction, as they can make use of English books. There is very little religious literature in the Japanese language yet, and without a literature we cannot carry on systematic instruction to the best advantage.

One of these young men, Mr. J.