

transacted. God holds in remembrance what that little caste girl, now a zezama woman, did for us in the work.

Oh how great is our beloved zanana work! It may be our brethren are using the strong guns, and directing them against the great citadel of Hinduism. But sisters, in those darkened homes and rooms, with no eye but the eye of God upon us, we may be quietly, silently, undermining the walls, and when the foundations give away it will be seen how great has been our work.—*The Baptist Missionary Review*.

JAPAN AS VIEWED BY AN INDIAN CHRISTIAN.

The Christian Church in Japan numbers to-day about 300,000, but it exercises an influence utterly disproportionate to the smallness of numbers. In spite of their faults and failings, due to the fact that they are less than fifty years removed from Anti-Christian influence of the worst kind, and are still surrounded by various hindrances, the Christians of Japan are a noble body of men and women loved and honored by fellow Japanese and foreigners. Christian influence is spread through a voluminous native literature, through philanthropical and social reform movements which, unlike India, are in the hands of Christians.

The Japanese Bible is widely circulated and has become even to the non-Christian bookseller a source of profit. There are a few Japanese

newspapers owned, managed and edited by Christians, who work to uphold Christian institutions and are striving to introduce higher ideals into Japanese journalism. There is a still larger number of journals whose conductors, though not professedly Christian, distinctively favor Christianity. Temperance organizations are entirely in the hands of Christians, as are also such movements as the S.P.C.A. and the Red Cross Society.

The leaders of new Japan are favorable to Christianity and its institutions, and are reconstructing the nation largely on Christian lines and with Christian ideas. And there is Christian life at the heart, for it is that life which is inspiring Japan with new ideas and ideals. And when we take into consideration how much Christianity has done for Japan in less than fifty years, we may safely prophesy that within this century Japan will become practically a Christian nation. "Christianity," says a great authority on Japan, "is bound to become a greater power in Japan, but it will be a Christianity modified by native ideas and influence."

The future of Japan points to amazing extension of Christian influence. "I am convinced," says an ex-Cabinet Minister, "that the religion of Christ is the one most full of strength and promise for the nation."—*From the Madras Christian Patriot*.

Our Work Abroad.

ZENANA WORK REPORT, JULY TO DECEMBER, 1904.

THE days of 1904 have glided by so quickly that it seems almost impossible to believe that the year has become a thing of the past, and that we have to gather up some of its memories, whether painful or pleasant, in order to tell others something of the work which has been done.

As far as numbers go, we may certainly rejoice in progress having been made, for we have now eighty-eight houses which we visit as regularly as possible, and ten pupils under instruction. It is encouraging to see with what willingness and confidence we are received, and how new doors are constantly being opened to us. Some of the women are eager to learn the Bible; some of them feel that their spiritual diseases must be healed, and others say that what they read and hear from us is quite true.

It is encouraging to see some of them waiting for us that we may read and explain the Bible to them, for they say that there is nothing else in which they could interest themselves, especially the widows, they are always very attentive listeners; it is often heart-rending to see them, some of them are so very young, I have seen many widows between eight and sixteen years of age, these often tell me their sad experiences, and I try to sympathise with them, and pray that it may please God to open a way for their deliverance. Often while talking to them of a Saviour's love and His willingness to receive them to Himself, I see the tears trickling down both from the mother's and daughters cheeks, for it is not only these widows who so keenly feel their degraded position, but their mother's also, seeing the wretched condition of their unfortunate daughters without being able in any way to help them. Their life is full of weariness