

extra effort made there was danger of having to ask for help. About two weeks ago, in conversation with a Japanese gentleman who is well acquainted with the work, I spoke of this church, and how much I enjoyed my work in connection with it, the pastor and people were so friendly and seemed so earnest. He agreed with me regarding both pastor and people, and then told me that they were having a hard time lately to raise the minister's salary, and for some months had been able to pay only two-thirds of what was due, and in December had dropped to less than half. "But," he added, "the minister has never complained, even though he is obliged to wear his thin summer shirts yet, and both he and wife are in need of outer garments, as you can easily see."

This conversation was overheard by friends, and in a few days a parcel containing warm shirts for the minister and some money found its way to the parsonage. The following is the note of acknowledgment received :

"Dear —

"You having heard the present state of our church, sent me a good gift. I will receive it with many thanks. If I confess the truth, yesterday was a day of great need of help, and your gift came to hand unexpectedly, so I felt it was a gift from the heavenly Father, and I believe it was really so. I am very much encouraged of late because the spirit of the church members has revived, the self-supporting spirit has become stronger, and I firmly believe that we can stand with the same principle forever, so I am working daily with cheerfulness and good hope. Pray for us. May God's blessing abide upon you all for ever more.

"Yours sincerely, —"

In connection with the same church there is a Sunday School that does its best to keep independent. The teachers are nearly all young men who work hard all the week to make their living, but more interested and earnest Sabbath School workers I never met, and especially knowing the difficulties of the work here and the lack of training. But with that love for souls that comes only with a saving knowledge of the power of God, they cheerfully labor on, and as they teach they themselves are taught. I want to tell you a