

Foreign Missions.

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A Circuit of the Globe.

A. McLEAN.

xviii.—*The work of the Disciples of Christ in Japan. (Concluded.)*

Two years later it was decided to make Tokyo the central station. It was a good thing in many ways that they went to Akuta in the beginning of the work. Mr. Greathouse, American Consul General to Japan, said that this was one of the causes of the more general dispersion of missionaries over the empire that took place from that time forward. It is a good thing for the workers themselves. The experience gained is invaluable. They were able to preach sooner than if they had remained in a large city where the audiences are more critical. Nevertheless Tokyo was the natural center of the work in Japan. People are constantly going there from all the provinces. From Tokyo they could go out in all directions. The fact that they came from the capital would give them a standing that they could not have otherwise. Before leaving the North they placed the work in the hands of Japanese evangelists. At the present time Saito San has charge of the work in Akita. Noto San lives and conducts services at Tsuehizaki. Kudo San is at Innai. Yokotsura San is at Arakawa. Tasbiro San is at Honjo. Shonai is vacant, but expects to be supplied soon. Kawamura San is at Akodzu. There are chapels at all these points except Innai and Akodzu, and they are arranging to build. The workers in Tokyo visit these churches from time to time. Lately Miss Johnson spent forty days on such a visit and addressed many people. Mrs. Garst spent two weeks and so spoke that ten were baptized.

Several of the workers sent out are no longer on the field. Those in Tokyo and their work are about as follows: C. E. Garst preaches in the city and makes tours into the country. He prepares tracts for general circulation, and does whatever else he can to advance the interests of the kingdom. Mrs. Garst teaches the women and the children and assists in the services. Miss Johnson has a charity school, a meeting for women, a Bible class, and goes out on tours. E. S. Stevens, Dr. Nina A. Stevens, Miss Lavinia Oldham and Miss Mary Riach reached Japan three years ago. Mr. Stevens has charge of one chapel, teaches a Bible class, teaches English in the Young Men's

Christian Association and studies the language. Dr. Stevens teaches a Bible class and carries on her medical work. Miss Oldham conducts three Sunday schools, two charity schools, two Bible meetings for women and one English Bible-class. Miss Riach has charge of the girls' home and training school, conducts a charity school and a Bible meeting for women. Mr. and Mrs. Guy came out two years ago. He has charge of one chapel, teaches a Bible class, teaches English in the Young Men's Christian Association, superintends the buildings in course of erection, and studies the language. Mrs. Guy has charge of a charity school and a Bible meeting for women. Three Japanese evangelists aid the work, namely, Nyshioka San, Imai San and Yoshida San.

Other workers have served in Japan. Five years ago Miss Luduska Witick was sent out by the Belle Bennet Band of Drake University. She is now at home on furlough. She did a good work, and her praises are heard on all sides. Nearly three years ago W. K. Azbil, J. M. McCaleb and wife, Miss Lucia M. Scott, Miss Carmi Hostetter and K. Ishikawa came out. Mr. McCaleb has built a chapel and preaches in it and a station out in the country, publishes a Sunday-school paper and tracts and conducts a Bible-class in his own house. Miss Scott assists in the Sunday services, teaches English ten hours a week, conducts a large charity school; teaches the children singing; assists in the meeting for women, and gives some time every day to the language. Miss Hostetter has a day school, and conducts meetings for women. A suitable building has been erected. She teaches in the Sunday school and has a Bible-class for young men in her own home. In addition, she teaches English ten hours a week in a large school. Ishikawa San teaches in a college for girls, teaches English to several, and aids in preaching. Mr. Azbill returned to America within a year. His purpose was to secure more workers. He is in Japan again. He has a preaching place where meetings are held three times a week. He gives lessons to two Bible-classes in connection with the Meiji-Jo-Gakko, and gives instruction three times a week to a gentleman who is making a special study of Christianity. As he can find time he engages in literary work. He has in preparation two small volumes, one on baptism and one on the history of the New Testament books. With the assistance of Miss Scott and Miss Hostetter, he is arranging to put up a chapel. Miss Alice Miller reached Japan last April. She teaches three

Bible-classes a week, has a class in English in the Sunday-school, with the help of several Christian girls conducts an afternoon Sunday-school, and teaches English four hours a week in the Meiji-Jo-Gakko. If the time needed for correspondence and entertainment and the study of the language is considered, it will be seen that these workers have had their hands full.

The Disciples of Christ stand for precisely the same thing in Japan that they do at home, namely, the union of all believers to the end that the whole world may be evangelized. It is true that most Protestant missionaries cooperate. Still there are differences in faith and in practices that can not be hid. It is no answer to say that Buddhism has many sects. Then there are the wider differences between Protestants and Roman Catholics and Greeks. If all who call upon the name of the Lord could unite, the chief hindrance to the spread of the gospel would be taken out of the way. The Japanese want the very thing for which we plead. They want the Christianity of Christ, and not the creeds, or dogmas, or customs of men. One of the ablest men in Japan says that there are hardly any of his countrymen who are loyal to the creeds and dogmas which constitute the foundations of the several denominations. Common Believers, he adds, have been ignorant from the beginning of sects and denomination; but never before have these been so coolly disregarded by the ministers and officers in the churches as now. One prevailing current, throughout all denominations, is church union, and this current is growing stronger and higher and swifter. Leading men in the churches pay most diligent attention to the practical question of church union, and utterly none to the preservation of the denominations. All are waiting anxiously for the time and the man to take the final step toward a glorious reformation in Japan. The Japanese desire and pray for what we desire and pray, that there may be one flock, one Shepherd. Now is the time for us to publish far and wide the truth which we hold, and thereby help the Japanese to realize that which they so devoutly wish.

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ONTARIO.

HAMILTON.—Church, corner of Cathcart and Wilson Streets.

Lord's Day Services:

Public worship, 11 a. m. and 7 p. m. Sunday-school at 3 p. m. V. P. S. C. E. at 8:15 p. m.

Prayer-meeting, Wednesday evening at 8. Strangers and visitors to the city are always welcome.

Geo. Munro, Minister.

TORONTO.—Cecil Street (near Spadina Ave., W. J. Lhamon, 435 Euclid Ave., Minister.

Services:

Sunday, 11 a. m., 7 p. m.; Sunday School, 3 p. m.; Junior Endeavor, 4:15 p. m.; Senior Endeavor, 8:15 p. m.

Wednesday, Prayer-meeting, 8 p. m. Friday, Teachers' Meeting, 8 p. m.

All are cordially invited to these services.

ST. THOMAS.—Church, corner of Railway and Elizabeth streets.

Lord's Day Services.

Public worship, 11 a. m. and 7 p. m. Mission Sunday-school, 9:30 a. m., Junior E. Society, 10:20 a. m. Sunday-school, 3 p. m. Wednesday evening Prayer-meeting, 8 p. m. C. E. Society, Friday, 8 p. m.

Strangers welcome to all services.

W. D. CUNNINGHAM, Pastor.

Residence, 43 Mitchell St.

LONDON.—Elizabeth Street Church.

Sunday Services:

10 a. m., Prayer Meeting. 11 a. m., Preaching Service. 2:30 p. m., Sunday-school. 4 p. m., Preaching Service.

Monday, 8 p. m., C. E. Prayer Meeting. Tuesday, 8 p. m., Teachers' Meeting. Thursday, 8 p. m., Prayer Meeting. Saturday, 2:30 p. m., Mission Band.

Seats Free. All Welcome.

Geo. Fowler, Pastor.

Residence, 376 Lyle St.

GUELPH.—Bridge Street Church.

Services:

Sunday, 11 a. m., 7 p. m. Sunday-school, 2:55; Junior Endeavor, 4 p. m.; Senior Endeavor, 8 p. m.

Prayer-meeting, Wednesday, 8 p. m.

Auxiliary, once each month.

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