

place—a very nice Japanese house with eight or ten rooms, in the highest part of the town, which itself is a beauty spot set in lovely hills. From a little hill in the garden you have a view over the country many miles away to Old Fugi in one direction and off to the sea in another, and the whole place so healthy that they say cholera never comes there. The house could be fixed easily so as to become a very comfortable residence for a man or a small family. I told them that we could hardly send them a missionary, but explained our thoughts about a self-supporting supply of men, and asked if some hospital work could be joined to the school so as to make it possible to give enough to support a man. They caught at the idea at once, and in consultation with the hospital authorities, and in concert with the county council just now in session, they offer the house repaired and 60 yen per month for an unmarried doctor, who would give a short time in the hospital, and a short time in the school, but they are specially anxious to have a married man, so as to have the advantage of a *living* Western home in their town, with a lady who can help the girls, and so they offer 80 yen or even 90 yen to begin with for a married man. Then, of course, the man and woman who came could do private teaching and make some more, but how much no one can promise beforehand. If we had a good man and woman to put down here, and if they won the confidence of the people these sums would be increased and if they were good Christian workers they could do anything with these dear people. This is a golden opportunity for some one to do a splendid work in a town of 10,000 people right on the railway soon to connect the two capitals of the Empire. May God send us the man and the woman, who could do splendid missionary work and cost the Missionary Society nothing unless it may be their expenses out.

We took a week through the part of the town where the schools were situated, and there on one side of the street a very nice building occupied by a *Kindergarten*, on the opposite side an extensive spread of buildings occupied by the common schools from which issued the music of an American organ, accompanied by the voices of the children keeping splendid time, next to this the premises of the higher common school of which I have written above. We went through the institution. The 400 scholars seem to be well classified and are fine-looking boys. Some of the divisions were at their lessons, and others going through military drill for exercise in the campus. There was a very fine physical laboratory in which stood also a "baby organ." And then there was one class of fine-looking girls taught by a young lady who had come from our *Azabu girls' school*. I have great hopes of Hamamatsu, especially if our self-supporting missionary doctor and his wife arrive in good season, while the tide is in the flow.

*Friday, 3rd.*—On to Mori, a larger village in the midst of lovely scenery, a distance from the Tokaido, inhabited by a simple-minded but rather well-to-do class of people. Foreigners have scarcely ever visited the place. A Greek Church man started work here many years ago and won many converts. One wealthy man built them a church and gave it over. Bishop Nicolai came down at the time of the dedication. But they seemed to go down. The man who built the

church fell away and all was in decay, when Mr. Hiraiwa planted our standard there. Then the Greek Church made a great splurge again, and have sent a preacher to live there, but I guess the days of their influence is about over. A man who owned a large house gave it us free of charge for our meeting, as the theatre was being taken down. We had baptisms, the Lord's Supper, and then three addresses to a packed and very attentive audience. I have been told since that the next meeting in the chapel was largely increased and many want Bibles and explanations, so that the evening's seed-sowing is bearing fruit already.

*Saturday, 4th.*—A most delightful jinrikisha ride through charming valleys brought us to the Tokaido again and to the town of Shimada. Here they had hired the whole of a large hotel, all the rooms of which were thrown into one. A fine audience came together and the usual services again enjoyed, we getting to rest about midnight, when the last of the audience retired, for the audience-room was also our bed-chamber.

*Sunday, 5th.*—During the night the rain came down in torrents, and continued most of the day. We had only a short ride of about seven miles or so on a level road, so made the journey in comfort, reaching Fujieda about noon. The members and friends of the church began to come about two p.m., and as the room hired for chapel is rather dark on so wet a day, they had the meeting right there in our apartments; Bible-class, addresses, singing, the Lord's Supper, until 6.30 p.m. At eight o'clock we opened in the theatre. Mr. Kobayashi spoke first on "The Future Religion of Japan," which, of course, was to be Christianity, but not of the old Jesuit Roman Catholic stamp that gave such trouble in former years. He was interrupted repeatedly and contradicted by some parties in the audience. It seems that the Roman Catholic propaganda has been working here for some years, and many of the lower class people have joined them, but none of the better class. The very presence of Roman Catholics, and the ill-repute they have brought upon the NAME, have been the greatest hindrance in the way of our evangelistic work in this place as elsewhere on the Tokaido. But these interruptions were the very first we had experienced on this trip.

*Monday, 6th.*—Bright and early off and back to Shizuoka; splendid weather. Yesterday was a significant day in Shizuoka. The pulpit, in the absence of the pastor, was occupied in the morning by one of the early converts, now a local preacher; in the evening two sermons were preached, one by the former headman of the Roman Catholics, now a Methodist and high prison official, the other by a former Greek Church preacher, now our evangelist in Hamamatsu. A fine young man and good speaker. He came some time ago to Dr. Cochran, and said, if he would clear up a few doubts in his mind, he would become a Protestant. He could not have struck on one more competent to solve theological difficulties, and, of course, his doubts were cleared up. Ever since he has been a faithful member, and has now become a good worker in our Church. Both the Roman Catholic and Greek propaganda are thus yielding before our earnest, common-sense Methodism. By the way, the people in Fujieda and Shimada, where we were Saturday and Sunday,