

destitute as so much money contributed for missionary purposes.

THE time-honored "C.M.S." is looking forward to the celebration of its second jubilee or centenary, to be held on the 12th of April, 1899. The C.M.S. has undoubtedly proved itself to be a great missionary organization, and it has done a good share of the evangelistic work which has been a strong characteristic of the century now fast passing away. Three years yet remain before the centenary arrives. This is to be a "Three Years' Enterprise," and is to be known as the "T.Y.E." In other words, great exertions will be made within that time to review the past and improve the future. The C.M.S. wishes to face its new century of work with improved methods and enlarged support. May those efforts be crowned with success!

#### MATSUMOTO, JAPAN.

The Rev. F. W. Kennedy thus writes from Japan: As I have been in Matsumoto so short a time, the duty of rendering a report for the year's work must fall upon Mr. Kakuzen, who has worked so faithfully since his coming here, some two years ago. Yet this should not prevent me from making a few remarks about the present condition and future prospects of the work. On my arrival, in September last, I found that our congregation consisted of seven adult Christians and two children. As some of them lived a long distance from the town the congregations were small. As soon as I began visiting with Mr. Kakuzen I discovered that the work would be of the uphill kind. We were received graciously enough, and the people seemed to read with pleasure the books and tracts that had been lent them; but for fear of what people would say, and not liking to openly quarrel with their relatives, they will advance no further in seeking after Christianity.

Outside of Matsumoto we have two outstations, Shiajiri, ten miles distant on one side, and Kawate, nine miles on the other. The latter place is quite encouraging; our work is chiefly among the young men of the place. I hope, before long, to be able to report of excellent work being done here.

Our work amongst the women is greatly hindered by not having a Bible-woman to visit them in their own homes. Mrs. Kennedy and her mother, Mrs. Rowe, are doing their best by teaching them sewing, knitting, and fancy work, and most of the little girls that attend these classes come to our Wednesday evening Bible reading. A schoolmaster's wife and the daughter of the chief Shinto priest are also their pupils.

On the whole, though things move slowly—so slowly sometimes that they almost seem to

have come to a standstill—yet the work is not discouraging. We try to remember that it is only our duty to sow faithfully, it is God who will bring forth the fruit in His own good time.

#### DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND IN CANADA.

##### ASCENSIONTIDE APPEAL, 1896.

BRETHREN BELOVED IN THE LORD,—Once more we spread before you the Church's annual appeal for her domestic missions. The field is familiar to you. Algoma is its eastern boundary, whence it stretches across the prairie dioceses of Rupert's Land, Qu'Appelle, Calgary, and Saskatchewan, up through Athabasca and Moosonee to Selkirk and Mackenzie River within the Arctic Circle. From beyond the Rocky Mountains the dioceses of Columbia, New Westminster, and Caledonia hold out their hands to us for aid in maintaining and extending the Church amongst their settlers, the Indians, natives of the soil, and the Chinese, who in numbers have crossed the Pacific Ocean, and will, if the Church be active in evangelizing them, return by and by to their own country as most effective Christian missionaries.

The field is so vast that our hopes and our courage almost fail before it. The offerings of all our congregations must, at the best, be inadequate to the work now in hand, to say nothing of all the new enterprises on which the bishops would gladly enter at once if they had the means.

Our courage will at once revive if we recall the striking fact that our God can save by a few no less than by a multitude. History will bring up before you many instances in which God has chosen the weak things of the world to confound the strong. A few, with large faith and hearts big with love and generosity, have been successful, when the many have sometimes utterly failed. The Church of England is not by any means the most numerous or the most wealthy Christian body in the Dominion; yet, if we are devoted to God and His Church, if we are self-denying and zealous, it may be granted to us to accomplish far more than we can even picture to ourselves in our vast domestic mission field. Certainly our hopes should never fail, seeing that the work is all God's work. It lies closer to the Saviour's heart than to ours, however interested we may be. He endured that long agony on the cross, that travail of His soul, in order that men everywhere might be brought to know and love Him, and become one with Him.

He could accomplish His desire without our aid, but He has made us His fellow-workers. It is our highest honor to be