

Christmas day, as you know, came on Sunday. It was one of the happiest days I have ever spent. One of our girls and the head Japanese teacher were baptized in the little meeting place you attended while with us. No doubt you have heard of the two great fires that have laid a large part of the city in ruins, and in one of which our pretty little church, which we had only enjoyed about five or six weeks, was destroyed. We were very glad to have Mr. Cassidy's school left, and though the baptism was to have been performed in the new church, the place did not take away any of the solemnity. My heart was full of gratitude to our dear Father for the way in which He has heard and answered the prayers which have been sent up for our work. I wished Miss Morgan might have been able to see this result of her labors. Our little maid, O Maki, will soon follow, and I hope it won't be long before our other Japanese teacher comes out strongly as a disciple of Christ.

Then there was that nice visit with the friends in Azabu, when we had such merry, happy times, and threw off for a while the weight of responsibility which we cannot help feeling when in the midst of our work. Then the home-coming and settling down again to the daily round of our duties. That is just what it is for us, as well as for those at home. "The daily round and common task"—we never get beyond that, if we take life right, no matter what sphere we may be in. Some people think because we leave home and friends behind, and come so far away, there is an interest and romance about our lives which makes them exciting; but you know differently, I am glad to say, and can appreciate the difficulties we have to meet and the patience with which we must wait for the fruit of our labors. I am a little surprised sometimes at the ideas contained in some letters I have received, where people have an idea that all we have to do is to out and gather the people in by scores. They do not realize how long it takes to get their confidence even after they begin to trust us.

I am happy to say every girl but one, and she came to Hidzuoka but was taken sick at her guardian's, will be here next week, I expect, returned after the holidays. As the change in principalship usually brings a change in the attendance, I thought there might be a little falling off. As there was none, it is a good sign that their interest in obtain-