

MISSION FIELD.

JAPAN.

The Rev. A. Lloyd, one of the S.P.G. Missionaries, in the last Report to the Society, says of the work in Japan:—

You will, doubtless, have heard from Bishop Bickersteth, and from Shaw, of the wonderful openings for women's work and female education which they have had.

I am morally convinced that at the present moment, if we can rise to the occasion, we have the moulding of the nation's education in our hands. The demand for English teachers is spreading to the provinces, and the next two or three years will see teachers appointed to all the principal cities in the Empire.

We are extremely thankful for what we have got by way of support, but you will not need to be told that work begets work, and you will not be surprised to hear that it is our deliberate intention to get overworked again, and then to cry for more help!

Through the kindness of Mr. Fukuzawa, we are going to open, in connection with the *Jiji Shimpō* newspaper, a registry-office for teachers. The editor of the *Jiji Shimpō* is to find the situations, and I am to provide the teachers.

Now I am going to ask the S.P.G. to keep a list of men and women who would be ready to come to Japan at a moment's notice to take up the positions as they come in. I think that there probably are a great many people who, without being actually suited for direct missionary work, and having no vocation for the sacred ministry, would still be willing to come as Church teachers, and join a "brotherhood of the Christian Schools" in Japan. Probably many of these would be willing to pay for their own passage.

Now, for the kind of men wanted. For the country, married, without encumbrances, is the best condition. There are too many temptations for the single man, and there is great demand for woman's work.

A good knowledge of English, and power of imparting knowledge, is indispensable.

And, we want clear and distinct Churchmen, who can direct and advise the Christians around them.

Since I last wrote, one or two notable things have occurred in connection with my work. At the Keiogijiku, five masters have been baptized. We have now seven Christians in the teaching staff. In the new house which is being built for me, I shall have a chapel, and, being on the spot, hope to be able, by God's help, to consolidate and build up the work. Chappell's Sunday-school continues; my Sunday lectures are fairly well attended, and I am glad to say that an English lady in the Shiba congregation is now going to open a Bible class among the students.

At Meguro, I have twelve catechumens (all children) whom I hope to baptize soon after Easter.

One of my old pupils, named Fujizama, whom I baptized last

July, has become a master in a School at Nirayama, in the province of Idzu. Since he has been there, he has been the means of bringing two persons, one a scholar, the other a colleague, to a knowledge of Christ. I have sent him some books, and am going to Nirayama, to administer baptism in April, if I am spared. This case has very much rejoiced my heart.

At Kyobashi, very little has been done. I am afraid it is a little crowded out. However, I am arranging for the celebrations during the time that must elapse before another priest joins us. Mrs. Gardner, of the American Mission, is giving English instruction, and Chappell is organist and Sunday-school teacher.

You will have heard from other sources of the very successful Conference at Osaka. I was not present, being obliged to attend my Schools at Tokyo.

I think I have given you much to rejoice at. Truly, when I think of the wonderful opportunities and openings before us here, I am afraid lost, like the Franciscans and Jesuits of old, we lose our opportunities in this land, and by being over elated with our seeming success, have the door shut in our faces, and the opportunity taken away.

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