

Child, bring your weakness all to Me,
In it My strength shall perfect be,
If I in thee may reign.'

"So now I hear my dear Lord say,
No longer *must*, but 'Child you *may*,'
And my glad spirit free,
Delights His blessed will to do;
Willing I am, and able too,
Through Christ who strengthens me."

FROM JAPAN.

The time to do anything that ought to be done is now. The man who waits till everything is perfectly favourable before he unites with the church or gets married, will be apt to wait a long time. Circumstances never become perfect. The time to make your will is now. I suggested when making my last report that if the reader would make his will and name something for the foreign work he would feel the satisfaction arising from such a good deed, after death he could probably, from the upper spheres, watch the course of his gift as it carried blessings to the distant nations, and I would make a better report for the second quarter. Now I am ready to do my duty, have you done yours?

Twenty additions. This is the same number as for the first quarter, but there are three preachers, only one before, and there was more of this work done entirely by the Japanese. At least fourteen are due to their labors alone, some of them far away from Tokyo. Lest any should think that I take poor timber, I would say that these three men are all graduates either of a Theological school, or of a college, and I have rejected more men who wished to preach than I have received.

One of them is from the Greeks. He was editor of their magazine. That means a choice out of 150 preachers, and gives us a chance to create some literature. The written language of Japan is quite different from the spoken, and the Japanese are remorseless critics, so I have never felt that I could publish anything to advantage until now.

This man is an intense student. He has very little blood left. Being a great admirer of Kant he emulated his example by resolving not to marry, his friends interfered and persuaded him to take a wife to take care of him. For some years he was dissatisfied with the Greek Church, and he and his sympathizers started a paper advocating the reform of the Greek Church. But the "Holy Apostolic Church" does not reform, and the archbishop was furious. They were too numerous to do anything with them. This preacher is now at work in a ward called the brain of Tokyo, either because of the large number of officers who live there, or because of the Emperor who has his palace there. The Emperor has had the measles lately, and has not been out to any of our meetings. The preacher is meeting with some success.

This report is from sixteen preaching places in which I am directly interested. Miss Johnson has just returned from a trip among those in the country. She was accompanied by a Bible woman, and held some good meetings. She is preparing to start home for a well earned vacation.

Not all these places are fruitful. In one place we have worked steadily for more than three years, and never have come near the water. We are at it yet just as confident of victory as on the first day we began. They must yield. Every nation which has set itself against the gospel has gone to the wall, and Japan is not travelling that road. "Is not My Word like fire? saith the Lord, and like a hammer that breaketh the rock in pieces?"

We have opened two new places, making eighteen in all. In these we have seven preach-

ers, five helpers, and eight schools. Now that Bro. Azbill has come to our help the Disciples have twenty-one preaching places and eleven schools. These schools are all for poor children—charity schools. One missionary and several Japanese thought it unwise to enter one city where we lately began, and Japanese opinion alone favored the other. The first place is a city of 18,000 population but intensely devoted to Buddhism. The priest, who by touching the head of a person with his golden razor can insure that that person will become a god after death, went there. He touches no head for less than thirty cents, and from the rich he expects all the way up to one hundred dollars. In one day he took in two thousand dollars in that place.

Undoubtedly the work in that city will be hard, but perhaps that is just what we came to Japan for. A railroad will be built in that section, but it will not be built for several years yet, and that will greatly facilitate the work even if it does not show that Buddhism cannot live in the light. No one has a preaching place there. We have both to the north and south, so it seems to be our duty to undertake what may be for years fruitless labor.

The other city has 90,000 population. We had some work in the towns of that province, and I wished the preacher to persecute that work; he was willing but said that the best way to do it would be to plant the cause in the capital of the province, and work out from there. Other Japanese sided with him. "But," I said "there are Baptists, Congregationalists, Presbyterians and Methodists there." "Yes," they replied, "and Romanists and Greeks, but even then we have 15,000 for each of them and besides there are six thousand soldiers there." The Japanese were right. I told the preacher that he could not do the work without a helper, and now he is clamorous for another preacher, a Bible woman to set with her own sex, and for a foreign missionary. When I go to Sendai in a few weeks I shall have to attend to the ordinance of baptism.

These two places are samples of our work. In some places we work long and wearily without seeming to make an impression. The probability is that that work is better in the sight of God than where we are cheered by immediate success as in the second city named. Would you not think that we might very appropriately take off our hats to the missionaries of China and India who are obliged to work so much harder to accomplish as much? I think so. God does not command success; he does command work. Consider the possibilities. While we prefer to report results and not prospects, I venture to say that if we could obtain the money, in a few years I could increase these eighteen preaching places to one hundred, with correspondingly larger reports. Napoleon said—and I think that no one will be disposed to dispute the statement when they remember that Gladstone said lately that Napoleon's was the most colossal intellect of modern times. Napoleon said, "You can't make an omelet without breaking some eggs." For years we have been asking for money to extend the work according to our opportunities, if you wish us to do so you will have to break some eggs. It cannot be done by simply reading the reports. Pray for us. Like Paul at Ephesus, before us a door is opened great and full of possibilities, and the opposers are many.

GEO. T. SMITH.

RECEIPTS.

Previously acknowledged,	\$106 72
St. John—	
Per Mrs. Flaglor,	4 00
Southville—	
Mrs. M. E. Gates,	1 00
	111 72
SUSIE B. FORD,	
Treasurer.	

Port Williams, N. S.

AN IMPORTANT MATTER.

All who attended the International Convention of the Y. P. S. C. E., in New York, must have been impressed by its magnitude and its spirit. Nothing like it was ever seen before. It drew lovers of the Lord together, it let them gaze into each others faces, and it sent them home hoping and praying for the time when all will be one.

The "denominational rallies" were all full of interest, but it is generally conceded that none equalled that held by the Disciples of Christ. It is not often one's privilege to see Endeavorers work as they did on that Saturday afternoon. The brethren resident in New York were rejoiced to see their magnificent church crowded by Disciples, and the visiting brethren were delighted because they had such a place in which to gather.

Next year the convention goes to Montreal. Thousands of Disciples from the United States and Canada will be there. Denominational rallies will of course have their place on the programme. The various denominations will go to their respective churches, but where shall we go? Here is the important matter.

Montreal has a population of more than 200,000, of whom at least three-fifths are Roman Catholics. The most of the Protestant denominations have costly churches, but we have no place of worship in the city. We have, however, a small number of faithful brethren and sisters, and not a few sympathizers who would probably become our brethren if the opportunity were afforded. For two years they have been hoping that by some happy providence they should be assisted in establishing the cause of primitive christianity in the commercial metropolis of Canada. The opportune time for enlisting the sympathies and securing the co-operation of the brotherhood may have now come. If our Young People's Societies of Christian Endeavor, seconded by our other brethren and sisters in the United States and Canada, will take this matter in hand, they can put a neat and substantial place of worship for the Disciples of Christ, in Montreal, before the next International Convention. And when our young people go there in 1893 they will have the satisfaction of worshipping in a house which they have largely built.

The societies can do this. What is done must be done quickly. If they let this chance pass they will not enjoy the Montreal Convention. Bro. Editor, what do you say about this important matter? Please say something. Fellow Endeavorer, what do you say? The Y. P. S. C. E. in the Coburg street Christian church, St. John, N. B., authorizes me to say that they will pledge \$25.00 toward the erection of this much needed place of worship in Montreal.—H. W. Stewart in Evangelist.

[The matter mentioned above is important, and we glad Bro. Stewart has called our attention to it. If our brethren in Canada, aided if need be, by such help as they could receive from brethren in the United States, could secure an able evangelist to hold a good meeting in Montreal and remain there until things were set in order, and should follow this meeting with an appeal for help to build a house, we doubt not that such an appeal would receive a response from many generous hearts. When the Salt Lake enterprise is off the hands of the Endeavor Societies, this would not be a bad undertaking for them. Let the brethren in Canada take the initiative, do what they can, and the Christian Evangelist will do what it can to induce the brethren in this country to supplement their efforts. The first thing to do, we believe, is to hold the meeting, if a hall can be procured for that purpose. This will develop the local strength and enable the brethren there to know to what extent they require assistance from their brethren elsewhere. We favor the idea of pushing forward the enterprise of a church in Montreal.—Editor Christian Evangelist.]