

Palm Branch.

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JULY, 1894.

Dear young readers, when you hear it said, as you often will, "Oh, you missionary people are all growing one-sided because you confine yourselves too closely to one kind of reading," just put that down to ignorance or want of thought, because every one who knows anything, in this enlightened age, ought to know that the history of missions is the history of the world! We are of the mind of the old woman who, when rebuked for her constant scanning of the daily newspaper, said, "Let me alone! I want to see how God Almighty is governing the world!" Now that is just what we want to see—the wonderful way in which God is governing the world; opening up the darkest places of the earth for the entrance of His light and truth.

Why, the intelligent, conscientious missionary student is the best educated individual on the face of the earth to-day! The curriculum embraces geography, topographical and physical; history, ancient and modern; political economy; mental, moral and spiritual philosophy. It deals with races and individuals; its motto is, Progress, to the end of time—and beyond it!

We claim that a grand vista opens up before such a student. His horizon is widened, his ideas enlarged, the needs of the world are pictured, a revelation is given of the character of God which shows that His resources are adapted to these needs—are constantly brought to bear upon them; shows as nothing else can possibly show that

"The need of the world is Jesus."

We are glad to hear from our old friend Mr. Chappell. The story which he tells us to-day is a sad one and shows that missionary work is not play or romance, but that there are still heroes for God,—that the age of martyrdom is not yet past. It ought also to make us realize our own

happier lot in this favoured Christian land, where we can worship God in peace and freedom, "None daring to make us afraid." I wonder how often we think of this as one of the many things for which we have to thank God!

Our subject for prayer this month is "South America, Mexico, and the papal countries of Europe." We need to pray earnestly for these, that the bonds of ignorance, superstition and priestcraft may be broken, and the people allowed freedom to worship God in sincerity and truth.

Foreign Correspondence.

AOYAMA, TOKIO, JAPAN,

May 10, 1894.

DEAR YOUNG FRIENDS,—I have been asked to send, now and again, a few lines for your paper. The incident that I am about to relate in this first letter will not be bright and cheery, but it will, I am sure, call out your sympathy.

Yonezawa is about two day's journey from Tokio; first by rail and then by jinrikisha and on foot over difficult mountain passes, away into the interior. The only foreigners who live in this town are two ladies of the W. F. M. S. of the Methodist Episcopal church.

Last week, while the annual Shinto festival of a deified former lord of the castletown was being held, the Christians thought well to have open-air meetings in the park, and having obtained consent from the police, they held one in the afternoon and another in the evening.

The first passed off very encouragingly, but the evening meeting was disorderly, and at its close the Christians were pelted with stones. One of these shattered one of Miss Imhoff's glasses, and several pieces entered the eye, causing it to bleed very much. It was for days thought that there was no hope of saving the eye at all, but now we learn that she may be able by it to distinguish between light and darkness.

She has said that she is very willing to lose her eye for His sake. She has also said that should the person who threw the stone be found, she wishes him to be brought to her so that she may tell him that she from her heart forgives him.

This incident shows that some missionaries are in the front of the battle. St. Paul said, "I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus," and still it is given to his chosen ones "not only to believe on Him but also to suffer for His sake."

It is strange that men hate Christ, isn't it? Yet they do, both in America and Japan. But

"If all the world my Saviour knew,
Then all the world would love Him, too."

Yours very truly, B. CHAPPELL.