

young woman to greater self-respect, but many a one has been converted and become an earnest Christian worker. One of our bible women was educated in the Poole Jo Gakko, and one of our language teachers—a sincere little Christian—was educated in the Presbyterian school here. Many of these educated Christian girls hold out against their parents and will not be married to heathen husbands. This brings down the wrath of the "Powers that be" upon our religion. They say it teaches disobedience to parents, which is an awful thing in the eyes of the Japanese, especially if the offender is a girl. The uneducated Japanese woman is a most insipid little creature, most uninteresting has no mind of her own—generally—and is a most bidable little piece of womanhood. This is the kind of a woman that the Japanese man as a rule likes, someone to serve him like a machine. If they have children they gradually become more to each other, and it is wonderful how some of these simple young girls develop into women of considerable sense. This may be taken no account of until she becomes a grandmother. It is nice to know that the grandmothers have a voice in the household if they never had as daughters and mothers. The young married women of the upper classes put in a very lonely, idle life when they are first married. "They have no work to do, that is they do not attend to the housekeeping, having servants; and all their sewing is done before they are married. They get enough outer garments to last their lifetime, made and packed away before they are wedded. This is a custom among the rich people, and since the fashions never change it is very satisfactory. The fashions regarding small articles of clothing change, but not the larger garments corresponding to our gowns and jackets; these never change in style, and they often have hundreds of dollars' worth of these beautiful clothes. When a lady is well dressed everything is of most delicate shades of color and all in such harmony. They are so misrepresented in the pictures that we see in the home lands that we have no idea how refined the Japanese taste is with regard to many things until we come here and live among them. Do not think when I say that the women are insipid that I believe there is nothing in them. Oh, no, quite the contrary, but I think they need teaching, or rather developing. Shortly after Miss Trent came to the country she went with Mrs. Baldwin to call upon the young wife of a judge whom Mrs. Baldwin knew. They found her playing with dolls and a ball.

We know two women, the wives of officers, who have no children, and they do put in such a sad, lonely time—nothing to do. If they were only King's Daughters, and their husbands were willing, they could find plenty of work to do. But, alas! their husbands are not willing. They may be thankful if they are not divorced. It is quite a common thing for women to be divorced because they have no children.

Before closing, I want to tell you of a young lady who came to me for English. She is the daughter of one of our neighbors, Judge Kano. They have the nicest home I've been in in Japan. Everything is in good taste and of the most expensive make. This young girl has been to Tokyo to school, and is quite well educated; and moreover, she is a christian. When she first came to me she had not been baptized, but her mother is a christian, and attends the Methodist church every Sunday. The daughter is very beautiful, and a very sensible little thing. She loves to talk about spiritual things, and is developing so day by day. The other day we began reading the book of Ruth and the conduct of Orpah. She meditated for some time. After she had made sure she understood the circumstances, then she said, "Was that very wicked; couldn't she remember the true God and stay in her own country and among her own people?" Two of her sisters are married, and she says that their husbands said they were christians, but they do not seem like it, and her sisters are not as earnest as they used to be. During our conversation, I said: You know, O Kano San, if christians are not sincere and faithful, they do more harm to christianity than any opposers can do. When we profess to be something that we are not, we do unspeakable harm to the religion and are unhappy in our own lives. She replied, "But when I try to be very much in earnest my father scolds me." Thus the poor girl is curbed in her enthusiasm. Her father is an unbeliever; at any rate he opposes everything that tends to make the girl conspicuous as a christian. One day she said to me "I should like to do something for Christ." I replied Well, Kano San, you can introduce me to some of your friends, then if I can teach them English and the Gospel that will be something. "But," said she, "I have no friends. I used to have a few when I was small, but I seldom ever see them now." This is quite true of many girls and women, especially among the upper classes; they have few associates, if any. The boys and men have many, and expect the women to be always at home to wait upon the friends who visit them. I am told that in Loteyo things are

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