

ary; no talent, no power need remain unused; there is scope for all kinds of characters, for all differently gifted people. Besides the distinct works of school teaching, Zenana visiting, medical work, etc., etc., there is another very homely occupation, but none the less honorable. I refer to housekeeping, and keeping the accounts for those whose direct missionary work takes up all their time, so that it is difficult for them to attend to such matters properly. This is a call which can be responded to by those who are not young, or not equal to really hard work. For such a position, a slight knowledge of the language, enough to speak to the servants, would be sufficient. From personal experience I can testify what a blessing amongst a busy set of people such a one is. There is ample scope for all gifts, be they what they may, large or small, provided that they be whole-heartedly and lovingly consecrated to the service of our Lord and Master.

There are no less than one hundred and forty million women in India, twenty-one million of whom are widows, and it is only by bringing these loveless, hopeless, perishing, Christless lives into contact with the love of God in Christ Jesus, that they can be reclaimed and emancipated. We have dwelt at length on the need of workers, hoping that God may put it into the hearts of some of our members, ere this New Year closes, to give themselves and their talents, however small, to this great and crying need—the light of God's blessed Gospel to cheer and save the souls of some of these downtrodden, unhappy, and perishing 140,000,000 of our fellow-women, "the love of Christ constraining them," to go forth in His strength.

ST. MICHAEL'S TRAINING SCHOOL FOR NURSES, KOBE, JAPAN.

This very useful institution has been in operation now for two years, and on the 28th of September last the first graduating exercises took place, when two of the Japanese student-nurses received their diplomas. Miss Jennie Smith, our lady medical missionary, who is in charge of the training school, writes that the papers given for the examination were more difficult than those used in America, yet one nurse obtained ninety-one and the other eighty-seven per cent., a result which was naturally very pleasing to Miss Smith. The presentation of the diplomas was made the occasion of a very enjoyable entertainment. The room was beautifully decorated after the most approved Japanese etiquette, about which these flower-loving people are very particular. The use and arrangement of certain flowers for certain seasons is as much a part of a lady's education as any other matter of social etiquette.

Two Japanese, who had been nursed by Miss Smith and her students, asked to be allowed to assist in the decorations. One, a gardener, sent a lovely arch of lilies and evergreens. The programme was as follows:—

PROGRAMME.

Kimi Ga Yo (Japanese National Hymn).
Prayer, Rev. Mr. Yamagata.
Hymn.
Congratulatory Composition (Officer of the Red Cross Society).
Japanese Song (Students).
Presentation of Diplomas, by Miss J. C. Smith.
Address, Dr. S. Yoshida, Dr. F. Shiba, Dr. J. Hashimoto,
Dr. G. Hashimoto.
Valedictory, Sada Tanaka.
Composition, Nami Hamaguchi.
Hymn.
Benediction, Rev. Mr. Gardner.

Two officers of the Red Cross Society were present, one sent as the representative of the Governor of the Province. It will be remembered that mention was made in a previous issue that Miss Smith was asked by the Japanese Provincial Government to take charge of this society, organized to nurse the soldiers wounded in the war and invalided to Kobé. This was a great honor, as explained by those who know about such matters, for it meant passing over the native nurses, of whom there are many, in favor of a foreigner.

The accompanying illustration is from a photo taken just before Miss Smith and her staff of nurses, pupils, and Bible-women left Kobé for Nagano, where they now are. In the left hand lower corner will be seen a little girl, O Tsune San, sister to O Ren San, who died in May last from the effects of burns caused by the upsetting of a lamp while attending a patient. During her great suffering poor O Ren San told Miss Smith how anxious she had been to get this little sister away from the evil influences with which she was surrounded; so after her death Miss Smith asked for the child, and the relations, in gratitude for the great kindness Miss Smith had shown in nursing O Ren San in her own house, gave her up the child. Shortly after they had done so Miss Paterson went to Kobé, and has now undertaken to pay the child's way until she is old enough to earn for herself, provided that she is trained to some sort of work in the Canadian mission in Japan. The nurses asked to have the little girl included in the group as a "substitute" for their late fellow-student, of whom they were so fond.

Funds are much needed to start Miss Smith's work in Nagano. The sum voted at the Triennial for building a hospital there will not be nearly sufficient to complete and furnish it, so we trust our members and others will do their utmost to give *something* to help on this great branch of our missionary work. While not in any way limiting our prayers for or offerings