

**THE PALM BRANCH**  
*Hosanna to the Son of David Hosanna in the highest*  
 Devoted to the interests of the Mission Circles and Bands of the Woman's Missionary Society, Methodist Church, Canada.

**Y**OU will be glad to see this month the face of our beloved Pioneer Missionary, Miss Cartmell.

Does one of the youngest of our Mission Band members ask what that large word Pioneer means? Well, the dictionary says "one who goes before to clear the way." and that is just what our dear Miss Cartmell did.

She went before to prepare the way for all the other lady missionaries of our society who have since gone to Japan.

It will be seventeen years in November since our Woman's Missionary Society was organized in a meeting held in Centenary Church, Hamilton, Ont., for that purpose.

We find by reference to an interesting sketch of Miss Cartmell, kindly sent us in 1894, that at that meeting she was much impressed with the thought and the hope that God had missionary work for her to do.

Soon after a committee waited upon her and asked her to go to Japan. Could she go? Was she chosen of God? These were the questions she asked herself. It was only after much prayerful consecration that she consented to go.

Miss Cartmell went to teach the women and children of that distant land, for the missionaries already there had come to the conclusion that only women could do really successful work among the women and children—but she did more,

"After earnest entreaty she consented to teach a class of young men English, twice a week, on condition that they attend her Bible class on Sunday. The result was that they were all converted before the end of the year, won to the Saviour by this gentle, quiet woman, whose great love for Him and the women of their land had led her across the sea.

She held Women's Meetings which were well attended and their influence was felt and acknowledged. In her first letter home she said: "I already see that there is more to be done than one can accomplish," but nobly she toiled on until others came, ministering to the sick and dying, gathering the children into her home, as a school, with native Christian teachers under her supervision, visiting the women in their homes, telling of the beauties of the life in and through Christ.

More was accomplished through these means than we can ever know or thank her for—the foundations of our work were well laid for all those who have succeeded her."

Miss Cartmell was much beloved by the Japanese.

"While she won them by her gentleness she held them by her faithfulness in all things."

After years of fruitful service in Japan, Miss Cartmell's health gave way and she was obliged to return home, only to interest others in the work so dear to her heart. After three years' rest she was asked to go to British Columbia to assist in the work among Chinese women and the Rescue



MISS CARTMELL.