



THE REV. GEORGE M. MEACHAM, M.A., D.D.

agents who co-operate with the missionaries and their wives in evangelizing this great Empire.

The influence of the Christian churches in moulding the character of this young nation and inspiring its ideals can never be measured by cold statistics. The divine leaven of Christianity has been hidden in the measure of meal and is destined to leaven the whole lump. Far beyond any numerical results has that influence been potent. The leaders of thought, the members of the cabinet and of the high councils of the nation have in very considerable numbers accepted the teachings of Jesus. The recognition of Christian institutions and the Christian Sabbath, the adoption in large degree of the English characters instead of the complex Japanese ideographs, are evidences of this moulding influence.

Japan has had good reason to be jealous of most of the "Christian" nations of the west. The perfidy and truculence of Russia, of Germany, of France in despoiling her of the fruits of her war with China ten years ago, rankled in her breast.

The integrity and honesty of the two Protestant powers, Britain and

America, have been in large degree an antidote to that virus, and have led to the treaty with the greatest sea power in the world, which guarantees to Japan a fair field in the development of her new imperialism. And the influence of President Roosevelt has brought to a close the tremendous war in which the little David of the East smote to his knees the boasting Goliath of the West.

Canadian readers, therefore, will follow with deepest interest the development of that new civilization in which our own Church is so largely contributing. It is significant of much that one of our ministers received an appointment, with others, of chaplain to the troops, and although these Christian officers were not enabled to join the forces in the field, they were, with our other missionaries, able to render most important service in the hospitals and camps at home; and the Y.M.C.A. did much to mitigate the sufferings and beguile the tedium of the wounded and sick. The Rev. William Elliott writes as follows of experiences of Japan in war time:

Almost simultaneously with the first war news—of the exciting fate



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