

ing this month for his native land, and expects to reach home early in September. During his stay in this country Mr. Hiraiwa has proved himself to be an earnest Christian gentleman, well versed in all the political, scientific and religious questions of the day. He has made many friends, who will long remember the pleasure and profit derived from their intercourse with him. We wish him a safe and prosperous journey, and that the Great Head of the Church may bless him with long life, and crown him in labors abundant.

PROVISION for an order of deaconesses was made at the Methodist General Conference, held in New York in May last. Regarding the duties of a deaconess we take the following extract from an article in *Gospel in all Lands*, by Rev. J. T. Gracy, D.D.:—"What are they? Simply women who are set apart for the lay work of the Church. Do not stop to ask where they are to find work. There are reformatories and poor-houses and orphanages, and there ought to be Methodist orphanages all over the land. There are prisons and hospitals, and there ought to be Methodist hospitals in every part of the country; and there are emigrants and waifs, and Magdalens, and strangers are being lost in the whirl of the great cities; and there are poor work-women and over-burdened mothers whose children can be cared for while they secure employment or take a half-day's rest or recreation. There are unschooled children to be gathered into night-schools, and sick people who want flowers as well as doctors, and who know nothing of human cheer and helpfulness, and are compelled to go to the dictionary to find 'sympathy.' There are released convicts; there are city children to be sent to good homes, away from the filth and squalor and crime-schools; there are boot-blacks and news-boys and street arabs that will follow, fascinated, the gentle courtesies and ministries of women." A deaconess is not bound by any formal vows, and is at liberty to resign the position at any time. Before receiving a certificate entitling them to the position and authority of a deaconess the person must have served a probation of two years, and be over twenty-five years of age.

THE Missionary Training School established by Mrs. W. B. Osborne, and for two years situated at Niagara Falls, now at Philadelphia, is to be removed, in October, to Brooklyn, N. Y. Mr. F. G. Smith, proprietor of the Bradbury piano, has given the use of a large four-story building, corner of Raymond and Willoughby Streets, Brooklyn, as a home for Bishop Taylor's missionaries and Mrs. Osborne's school. We believe the Training School is to have the room they may require for five years free of rent. From this school

seven trained missionaries have gone to foreign fields under different denominational societies—three to India, two to China, and two to Liberia, in Bishop Taylor's work.

WE take the following extract from the letter of a brother, who, by his enthusiasm and earnest labors, is proving faithful to the "Great Commission" delivered by the Master:—"During the last year I preached every quarter to the children on the subject of Christian Missions, took a collection at each service for the Missionary Fund, and put the boxes you sent me into the hands of the children. As the result our missionary money went up from \$153 to \$232. Now, I am anxious to advance on that amount sufficient to make this little country circuit of two churches good for \$300. Please send, with the prize books, twenty-five juvenile cards, as I purpose beginning early in the year. There is every prospect of a glorious harvest this year; why not raise \$300,000 this Conference year? I will personally do my share, and I believe I can get my people to do their duty. Pardon me for writing all this length. It came as a burden upon me as I wrote, and so I have given it to you. W. CRAIG."

*The Missionary Review* for August (New York: Funk & Wagnalls) was on our table by the middle of July, and is a literal as well as literary marvel in its breadth of discussion, fulness of information, and wealth of stimulating power. We might exhaust adjectives in describing the many admirable features of the *Review*, without danger of exaggeration, but content ourselves with saying to all and sundry—Subscribe for it; read it; help to circulate it.

THE Rev. A. N. Miller, who has had charge of the Port Simpson school for the last three years, and Miss Ettie A. Reinhart, for a length of time in charge of the Indian school at Bella Bella, were married on the 6th of June, at the Methodist church, Port Essington, B.C., by the Rev. D. Jennings, assisted by the Rev. W. H. Pierce, native minister. We wish Mr. and Mrs. Miller every happiness, and that a long life, rich in faith and good works, may be granted them.

THE prospects are that in the near future we will have a native Chinese missionary to work among that people on the Pacific coast. Through the good offices of the Superintendent of Wesleyan Missions at Fatshan, the General Secretary has been enabled to secure the services of Mr. Chan Sing Kai, and at the last meeting of the Committee of Consultation and Finance he was authorized to employ him for the Chinese work in British Columbia.