

and made the church beautiful with flowers. As the result of this meeting, a Society was formed with thirty members. Miss Jackson, *President*. In writing of it she says, "That means thirty dollars, and thirty daily prayers, and thirty interested mission workers."

YOUNG PEOPLE'S DEPARTMENT.

A Visit to Miss Morita.

It had been a long week to Ethel Carr. Cousin Jean had come home, dear Cousin Jean, who had been a missionary in Japan almost as many years as Ethel had lived, and with her had come a little Japanese lady. They had been in the city nearly a week, yet mother Carr had shaken her head firmly in answer to all Ethel's teasing, and said, "No, not until Saturday afternoon! Cousin Jean must have time to rest after her long, long journey before she is called upon to entertain such a magpie as you are."

But, at last, Saturday afternoon had come and Ethel, with her "very dearest, best friend," Effie Morris, set off for the much-talked-of visit.

Of course Cousin Jean was at home and ready to welcome her little visitors. They had to get acquainted all over again, and Cousin Jean expressed much surprise to see such a great girl—thirteen years old.

While Ethel was talking away to Cousin Jean (forgetting to be afraid of her even though she was a real, live missionary), some one stepped into the parlor with a smile and a low courtesy, whom Cousin Jean introduced as Miss Morita, pronouncing the name very carefully—*Mo-ree-tah*—so that they might catch it.

Ethel and Effie had had much discussion as to how she would be dressed, and were surprised to see her now looking like any American girl, in a pretty, dark suit, with her glossy, black hair, nicely arranged high on her head. The only difference was her small size, and rather peculiar walk. When they found out afterwards that etiquette requires a Japanese lady to turn her toes in, instead of out, to slide the feet along instead of lifting them, and when they saw, also, the large wooden shoe, looking something like a horse-shoe, that is worn in the street in Japan, they did not wonder that Miss Morita found it hard to walk gracefully according to our ideas. After all, Ethel and Effie concluded on the way home, what one noticed first about Miss Morita, was her pleasant smile and beautiful teeth.

But, later! Mrs. Carr was asking Miss Morita about her journey, and she was answering in *English*. Yes, it was certainly English, and they had to turn to Cousin Jean for an explanation. "How did Miss Morita learn English? She has never been in this country before, has she?"

"No," said Cousin Jean, "but we have schools in Japan where English is taught. Miss Morita has been in one of our mission girls' schools in Tokyo for four years—ever since she was your age, Ethel—and made such good progress there that her father, who is a wealthy man and very fond of Americans, decided to send her to this country to take a course in a college for women. She came in my care, and is staying here till all of her arrangements are made."

Just then Miss Morita turned around, with her bright smile, and said, "You are talking about my dear school-home in Tokyo. I learned to love the Saviour there, and to sing the beautiful hymns. O, how kind our dear foreign teachers are! I can never forget their goodness!"

"Yes," said Cousin Jean, "the girls all love their teachers, and that makes it very pleasant to teach them. Then, they are all very ambitious to learn English, and study hard, for now-a-days in Japan an education is not thought complete without English, no matter how much Chinese and other learning one may have. That is the reason the missionary schools are so popular and so full of pupils. They are not

better than the government schools in some things—indeed, we have to try hard to make them as good—but we can teach English better."

"But, Cousin Jean," said Ethel, "I did not know you went to Japan to teach English. I thought you went to teach the Bible."

"Well, dear, I thought so too, and at first felt very unwilling to spend so much of my time in the school-room—nearly the whole day, in fact—but it seemed as if God meant us to work that way, and so it must be the right way. I could not speak the difficult Japanese language at first, any way, and was very glad to find something I could do at once. I could even teach the Bible and hold meetings in English, or by means of an interpreter."

"By the way, girls, the next time I see you I shall have a great many questions to ask about Japan—all about Commodore Perry, what kind of a treaty we have with that country, and why it is that foreigners can travel about and live where they please."

"You see, we are shut up in little sections of ground, or Concessions, in five of the large cities, called the 'Five Treaty Ports,' and no foreigner can own even a foot of ground outside of a Concession, nor even sleep one night outside of treaty limits without a passport from the government. As we can not travel about to teach the Japanese, they must come to us, and what better way is there than to have schools where they can be with us all day to study the Bible and get a Christian education?"

"There is one way in which a foreigner can be allowed to live outside of a Concession, and that is by entering into the employ of the Japanese Government, or of some Company of Japanese. A good many of the missionaries have, especially in the last few years, entered into contracts with the Japanese who are favorable to Christianity to carry on a school, or teach English in a school, on condition that they be allowed to teach Christianity also, so many large Christian schools are now growing up outside of the Concessions in this way."

"Of course, we are obliged to teach English in these schools in order to carry them on at all, and are very glad that we can, at the same time, train the pupils to be Christian workers, and hold meetings for those outside. We also try to make the English as useful as possible to the pupils, not only as a mental discipline, but to store their minds with elevating thoughts from history, and all kinds of instructive and religious books."

This explanation of Cousin Jean's made Ethel think of a hundred things to ask about. One thing puzzled her. She thought heathen parents did not love their girls and often killed them while babies, so she spoke of this.

"That may be the case in China, but it is not so in Japan," said Cousin Jean.

"In all the large cities, and where the people are progressive, they are just as proud of the girls as they are of the boys, and want to give them as good an education as possible. This is the influence of Christianity, and one of the ways in which the example of America has been most felt in Japan."

Here Cousin Jean stopped and said that was quite lecture enough for one time, and perhaps the girls would like to see some of Miss Morita's pretty belongings.

Miss Morita cheerfully ran to get some Japanese gowns, sashes, shoes and stockings (or foot-mittens, as they might more properly be called), and told about them in a very interesting way. She even promised to put them on the next time they came, and Ethel and Effie went home thinking her one of the nicest and most polite girls they had ever met.

Is it not a solemn fact that, taking the world at large, of every three persons walking on the globe, two have never heard of the Saviour, have never seen a Bible, know nothing of heaven and nothing of hell?—*Rev. D. Wilson, Vicar of Idington.*