

and have no objection if other papers in the district copy or make extracts from them.

I have now been in Kanazawa two months, and have waited until I should have been here long enough to know something about the work in this place before writing. This is a city on the west coast of Japan of nearly 100,000 inhabitants. It is the capital of the Prefecture or Province of Kaga. It is about five miles from the sea-coast, where there is a small city named Kanaiwa. Kanazawa is noted for the manufacture of porcelain and silk. The scenery in this part of the country is exceedingly beautiful. Immediately to the south are several mountain ranges, the nearer ones being covered with woods, while the more distant ones rise to a greater height, and are covered with snow during the greater part of the year. In the mornings and evenings, when the sun is rising and setting, they are like a mass of clouds of dazzling whiteness and purity, setting off the dark green hills in the foreground with great distinctness. The lower mountains extend around from the south to the east and north of the city, while away to the sea is a level plain dotted with villages, which are strung along the roads leading to the other cities. I do not wonder that the Japanese love their country. One who did not would surely be blind to the beautiful.

The Presbyterians have two churches, an industrial school, a girls' school and a boys' school here. They have five foreigners, three females and two males, stationed here, besides native helpers. The Episcopalians have just sent two missionaries here, but they have not yet built a church. Their male missionary boards here with the Rev. D. R. McKenzie, and the lady worker is in one of the Presbyterian homes. Our work here was begun by the Rev. John Saunby, B.A., who did excellent service while here, the results of which are still visible. We have two Industrial schools, an Orphanage, a Boys' school, two churches and a preaching place. We have not two church buildings, however, for we use one of our schools as a church also. We have five Sunday Schools, one of them being here in the home of our missionary, Rev. Mr. McKenzie, whose place I am to take while he is home on furlough next year. Mrs. McKenzie, with the aid of a Bible woman, has worked up a larger school than the one in our largest church here. I have seen over fifty children packed in the dining-room, all squatted on the floor listening eagerly and attentively to Bible stories. It would have done you good to hear them singing "Like the stars of the morning" last Sunday afternoon. I think we ought to bend every effort to extend the Sunday School work. These children, who learn to sing Gospel songs and listen to stories of Jesus and his love Sunday after Sunday, cannot grow up with the prejudices against Christianity that the older people have; and moreover, from these come many of our converts.

As to my own work, it is largely preparation work. Some time after Conference Mr. McKenzie will start for Canada, and I will be their only missionary here. In the mean time, there is plenty of work that I can do. Four afternoons in the week I teach English in our school. We have over one hundred students in our school, all learning English. Once in two weeks we have an English service, the singing, Scripture lesson and an address being in English. I teach two Bible lessons a week. Each Wednesday evening I receive callers, generally having six to ten men call on me. They sometimes come to ask help in some piece of English literature, or sometimes we play games, or they ask about Canada, etc. They are very fond

of illustrated magazines and papers, and I lend them all I have, and explain many things contained therein. I suggested to them the idea of starting an English-speaking society, and they enthusiastically accepted the suggestion, and we have now a membership of nineteen. The society meets once a fortnight, and at each meeting five of the members give short speeches in English, while I act as critic. Thus I am getting acquainted with the young men of the student class, and among them my work is to be. In this city there are very many students. There are two schools here, one similar to a Collegiate Institute, with an attendance of 660 students, and another school of lower grade, called a Middle School, with an attendance of nearly 1,000. These students are all boys and young men, and there are but twelve or thirteen of the 1,600 who are Christians. There is also a Normal School here with over 200 in attendance, of which number there are not more than two professing Christians. Then there are the primary schools in addition to the above.

At the present time there is a great demand for English, and it is being largely taught in the higher schools and colleges. Some of the Japanese newspapers are printed in English, and some have an English department. The Japanese daily, which has the largest circulation in Tokio, sells for half a cent per copy, and has one column of each issue in English. It has seemed to me that it would be a good thing to take advantage of this desire for English by opening a reading room in our school and inviting the students; in supplying them with good wholesome literature, and having also a few books in English, which could be used as a circulating library. I would spend all the time I could in the reading room, and make it as entertaining and as helpful as possible. It would be a good opportunity for tract distribution, as well as bring many to the Bible classes and preaching services. A foreigner not long ago said to me that their young men do not come to the English services and Bible classes for the sake of the Gospel, but only for the sake of the English, and that he wouldn't be bothered with them. I told him that so long as any would listen attentively, and with apparent interest, I would teach the Gospel to them in English, or anything else that was available. I do not think the Gospel in English is a bad thing, though of course I wish I were able to teach in Japanese also, "that I might by *all* means save some"; so if you can send me, say, a dozen copies of the *Onward*, after you have read them, I will circulate them among the young men. It would be a good way of doing a little extra work, if any of you feel so disposed. Perhaps two of the larger Leagues could send me six copies each for a time, and then some others could continue. I will write to you again about the literature. I keep a good supply of tracts and religious books in Japanese on hand, and distribute as opportunities arise.

In the *Guardian of January 26th*, there was an excellent paper by Rev. M. Takagi, upon the "Recent Anti-Christian Movement in Japan," which I hope you all read. It gave some idea of the difficulties of Christianity in Japan. In this city alone there are over 350 Buddhist and Shintoist temples, some of them very large, and having many priests attached. One large temple has over thirty priests attached to it. Of course they are going to actively oppose Christianity; and yet, strange as it seems, I spent most of the day in a Buddhist temple on Saturday, March 12th, upon the invitation of the High Priest. His oldest son is one of my students, and has renounced Buddhism for Christianity. The priest (his father) invited Misses