

August we found our house ready for occupancy, and in a few days we were comfortably settled. Our house is an *attempt at foreign style*. The native builders, unable to appreciate western ideas of architecture, have made a compromise between the native and foreign; the result is low ceilings, and windows only half the usual height. But on the whole it is a very good dwelling. In size, 24 feet by 30, with kitchen attached. On the first flat are two rooms and a hall, and on the second three rooms. There is also a balcony at the front, and a covered porch at the back; while outside are storehouse and bath room, and native houses for the servants. Besides these a separate one-story cottage, 15 feet by 18, intended for a study and chapel, is being built close by, and will be finished in a few weeks.

We are pleasantly situated, not shut up in the crowded city, and yet surrounded by a large population within easy distance, affording ample opportunity for communication with the people. Mr. Nakamura's compound includes an area of about three acres. Our house is within this on the southern side, his own residence is next, and beyond are the school-houses and lodgings of the pupils, who number at present 110. On the whole, a more desirable spot for temporary residence and missionary work can hardly be found in this city, than that to which the good hand of Providence has led us in this place.

I am now in a position to *labour*, and to *wait* for the opening of the country, or whatever course may be deemed prudent in the future.

In addition to other advantages our residence here will secure to the Society a considerable saving of *funas*, and this, other things being equal, is a consideration of some importance. My liabilities for rent and repairs will not exceed \$35 per month. The same accommodation could not be had in Yokohama or in the foreign concession of Yedo for less than \$55 or \$60 per month. I am fully persuaded it is a much wiser course to rent premises at this easy rate than to purchase ground

and build at present. The thought, however, must not be entertained even for a moment, that the idea of securing a permanent location of our own in this city is abandoned. It is only postponed until we can purchase to advantage. Tsukidji is in many respects well situated for missionary work, but it is already occupied by two or three societies, and it does not seem to me the better way for all the missionaries to crowd together into one community. The funds which our people have generously placed at the disposal of the Society for the purchase of mission property here, can be held sacred for this use until the time comes for the selection of grounds and the erection of buildings. And as political events move suddenly and fitfully in the East, the country may open sooner than we anticipate; it is well, therefore, to be prepared at any time to make a choice.

My work just now presents many features of encouragement. I have public service at 9 a.m. and at 3 p.m. every Sabbath, in one of Mr. Nakamura's school-houses. The attendance at each service is from thirty-five to fifty. The morning service consists of the reading of a psalm in alternate responses, prayer, and a short discourse on some topic of Christian doctrine. The afternoon service is conducted as a Bible-class. The interest is remarkably good, considering that I speak only to such as are more or less acquainted with English. Mr. Nakamura assists occasionally by interpreting for me. As soon as I am able to use the native language freely, I shall have a larger audience. But some time must yet elapse before I can preach in it, though I expect soon to employ it in conversational expositions.

Besides the public services on the Sabbath, we have daily services in our own house. At the hour of family worship we are joined by a number of Japanese, whose attendance so far has been punctual and regular. Every morning we have four or five, and every evening from eight to ten, in addition to our own household. They