Mission Field.

From the S.P.G. Mission Field for April.]

JAPAN.

[CONTINUED.]

The great danger for Christianity in Japan is connected with charactoristics of the people which are noble and fine. They love their conntry; they are of a manly spirit years has indeed been an example to Their main objection to Christianity is that it is foreign, and when they do accept it they want to make it distinctly Japanese. To all this there is no sort of objection to be made. On the contrary, such elements in the national character are likely to produce stability in the future Church. Nevertheless, in these early days such a spirit of independence might lead to grave mistakes on the part of those who are still babes in Christ. And the danger is terribly increased when it is remembered that among other missionaries working in the country are numerous Unitarians, and that among European books reproduced in Japan there is a large proportion of infidel or somi-infidel literature. It is, therefore, not a little encouraging to find Archdeacon Shaw writing thus :

"On the whole the results for the year may be considered satisfactory. The infidel and Unitarian attacks, which have been so hurtful to some other bodies of Christians, have had, so far as I can see, no effect upon ourselves; and, in spite of the intense political agitation existing, our Church has made fair progress. The sneer that our Church writers scom to care more for devotional work than for philosophical speculation is at the same time their highest praise and the source of their success. Again, in our present experience, the Divine promise is fulfilled-' In quiet. ness and confidence shall be thy strength."

When the Archdeacon left Tokio to start for England, his departure was the occasion for a demonstration of affection and respect on the part alike of the Japanese and the English and other residents in the capital.

The principal English paper pub-lished in Japan [the Japan Mail] thus writes:

"Yesterday afternoon almost the whole British community of Tokio assombled at the British Logation to bid farswell to Archdeacon Shaw, Honorary Chaptain of the Legation, and Mrs. Shaw, who with their family are about to proceed to England The Archdeacon during his long sojourn of more than twenty years in the Japanese capital has wen the respect and affection of all his fellowcountrymen, as well as of an immense eircle of Japanese, and he carries eircle of aquantian away with him the most carnest wishes for his happiness and pros-perity. It would be idle to attempt to speak adequately of the noble work of untiring benevelence and work of untiring benevelence and modified by the Arch-Newton, D.D. Subscription : \$1.00 per annum; reduced deacon and Mrs. Shaw during their long residence in Tokio. They have done as much as it was possible to the do in the cause of Christianity, and

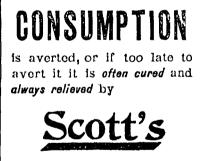
for the sake of that cause we heartily hope that their return to the scene of their labours will not be far distant.' Again, the principal native paper published in Japan (of course hea-then), as translated by Rev. J. Imai.

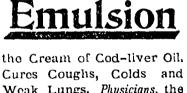
"Mr. Shaw has lived in Tokio for more than twenty years, during which long time he has delighted in religious works as if it were one day. He has corrected errors, comforted the poor, and his life during these all priests. His gentlences is well known to all. Who does not admire his virtues? His wife, too, is loved and respected by all who have met her, whether foreigners or Japanese, and she has been a great help to Mr. Shaw in all his work. There are great numbers of Japanese who have been instructed and influenced by Mr. and Mrs. Shaw in their faith and who will never forget their kind-ness and virtue. And there are a very large number of Japanese, both Christians as well as others, who admire, respect, and love Mr. Shaw and his family, and who feel deep sorrow for their departure,

Such praise coming from a heathen missionaries.

A most affecting address was presented to the Archdeacon by the Christians of sixteen Churches and congregations founded by the Society in the Tokio district.

(To be continued.)





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