

Peculiar solicitude has been felt as to their departure at this time of trouble in the East, although molestation with our work or workers is not apprehended.

Shall not each of these beloved sisters in the Lord be constantly remembered in prayer by us who, though remaining at home, are laborers together with them?

Four highly-valued and successful workers of our Japan staff have returned this summer on furlough, and have not reached the home-land any too soon for their own benefit. Worn down with the exhaustion of climate and labor, they are with us—for what? To travel from one end of the land to the other, to stimulate our flagging energies and warm our cold hearts in public and private by addresses to which they are unaccustomed, and by their most-interesting narratives? Nay, rather to enjoy the rest and quiet which they so well deserve in their own homes, at least for some months to come.

Beginning in the west, their names are: Miss T. M. Hargrave, Winnipeg, Man.; Miss N. G. Hart, Picton, Ont.; Miss L. Hart, Sackville, N.B.; Miss I. S. Blackmore, Truro, N.S. The air of Canada already comes to them delightful and invigorating. Let us make them feel the warmth and glow of a hearty Christian welcome wherever they may be, and the bracing yet mellowing influence of spiritual communion, which is so grateful to those who have come from non-Christian surroundings. E. S. S.

## Official Correspondence.

### CHINESE WORK.

*Letter from MARY E. MORROW, dated July 30th, 1894,  
100 Cormorant St., Victoria, B.C.*

DEAR MRS. PARKER,—Just as I am comforting myself that all the letter are despatched that I ought to write comes the thought that I have not sent one to the OUTLOOK. I wish you and your readers could look in and see "The Home" this pleasant summer afternoon, but as that may not be, I must try to show you what you would see here. You would find a number of bright-faced girls of the brunette type, their black hair so smooth and neat, and although they wear the Chinese dress they can look quite as neat in that as in any other. A rather large washing was put out this morning, and as usual it was done and every place and thing, upstairs and down, cleaned up and in order before eleven. Their dinner and ours were next cooked and disposed of, and dishes washed and the girls dressed and ready for their lesson with Mr. Hyp, their Chinese teacher, by half-past two. When that is over before four there is sewing and knitting to do, and practising and writing their Scripture verses in English and Chinese till supper time, after that the clothes from the wash are folded and the garden watered, and perhaps some time to play ball in the orchard till eight o'clock, when we have prayers. Such is a sample of one day, filled up with the duties of everyday life, but in the eyes of One who sees all it is not what is done, but the spirit in which it is performed, and I wonder if there are many homes in the land where all is done with more cheerful willingness than with these Chinese girls, who were, most of them, brought out of the depths and altogether untrained to methodical or orderly ways. I trust Christianity is more to them than a theory; it is a life.

Nun Yeo (the last woman who came into the Home) was married to a Chinaman since I last wrote to you. Both had been baptized into the Christian faith a short time before, and, so far as I can judge from outward appearance, both are true converts. Nun Yeo comes regularly not only to the church services, but to the weekly prayer-meetings and Sunday-school in the Home, and it is a great pleasure to hear from her lips the verses of Scripture she learned when here. She may not be as able as some of the girls to speak of her faith to others, but I hope she will live a consistent, orderly Christian life. Other girls will also go forth as light-bearers for the truth, and I trust this Home may be made a means of blessing to many.

## JAPAN.

*Letter from TOKYO, dated April 20th, 1894.*

DEAR MRS. PARKER,—During the spring vacation, the first week in April, we had the pleasure of a few days' visit from Miss Robertson, of Shizuoka, and Misses Blackmore and Alexander, of Kofu. The return journey to Kofu usually takes a little more than a day and a half. The ladies left here in a pouring rain before six in the morning, expecting to get the seven o'clock train, and to reach home the following day (Tuesday) about three p.m. But the rain had been coming down for three days and the roads were in a bad condition, but I will leave Miss B. to give the history of their trip as written in a private letter to me on the 13th of April:—

"You are probably already aware that we had the satisfaction of reaching the station just one minute after the train had left; and so we had a three hours' wait in that most uninteresting place. I do not know which is the worst difficulty to contend with on the Kofu trip, a late start or a rainy day, but both together are too much for human nature. Arriving at the end of the railroad we took a basha and rode out as far as Yamashita, five miles from Hachoji, just for our health you know, and then rode back to Hachoji again (could get a conveyance no further, the basha always go out after the early train) and slept there Monday night. We got a good early start next morning, were off at 4.30 and reached Yoshino about 9.50. There we were told there were no basha with which to proceed on our way. We made no attempt at argument (we had done more than enough at that the day before), but just went to the police station. The policeman called a bashaya (omnibus keeper) and told him to take us on to Ue-no-hara, and he fixed the price we were to pay, just the regular fare. At Ue-no-hara we met the same story, and again we sallied down to the police station. The basha-men seemed to be on a strike, and though the policeman was very kind and did all in his power, neither a basha nor a jinrikisha could he find. It is over twelve miles to the next station, Enkyo, and as the rain had ceased we decided to walk. The police had some trouble in finding even a coolie to carry our baggage, but kept at it until at last they did find one, and at 3.30 we started off, reaching Enkyo just a little after dark. Some places the mud was over our boot-tops, but "we got there." There did not seem much prospect of getting a conveyance before we reached Kamakai, and perhaps we would have to walk all the way to Kofu. There was nothing to be gained by waiting, and our bento (lunch) was growing less. We made no attempt at getting up early next morning, but stayed in our little beds until after seven. Got some milk and rice for our breakfast and found that jinrikisha could be had by "paying for them." We counted up our assets, and found we had a little over three yen (about \$1.50), we had started out with yen 13, and our journey was but half done. As the people at Enkyo hotel knew us better than at any other place (we always stay there over night) we explained matters to the mistress and left our bill *unpaid*. It was a beautiful day, but the roads were bad and our baggage heavy, so we walked a good deal and were tired enough when we got to Korogata. We had no thought of getting a basha over the Togi (pass), and could hardly believe our ears when our inquiries were answered with arimasu (have). We chirked up wonderfully then, and after a good bowl of hot soup (Japanese) each, some fresh onions and salt to eat with our remaining bread and butter, we were quite made over. We left Korogata with just *half-a-sen* (corresponding to our half cent) over what we had promised to pay the basha-driver for taking us to Komakai, but that was all right, as we would not need to pay the driver from Komakai until we reached the school. There was a good hot bath and dinner waiting for us when we got in at six o'clock."

*Letter from TOKYO, dated April 20th, 1894.*

DEAR MRS. PARKER,—Each week we send out to former pupils, and those whom we feel have especial need, Japanese leaflets, papers, such as are given out in our home Sunday Schools, and the Christian magazines that have been first read by the girls, or those that are left over after distribu-