

Dr. Macdonald and I went down to Yokohama to meet the new missionaries on September 7th, and the next morning Miss Hargrave and I, with five of the Japanese belonging to the school, started for Kofu. Miss Lambly accompanied by three Japanese had gone the day before. It was pouring rain, and you know something about the trip under such circumstances. Just as we enter the mountains, for about a mile and a quarter, the road is the bottom of a deep, narrow gorge, the mountains rising abruptly on either hand; it is quite steep and very narrow, and had become the bed of a muddy, rushing little river. There was no way but to wade through, and in the deepest places (above my knees) the current was so strong that the Japanese girls could not hold their own against it, but had to be helped from one shallower spot to another.

Fortunately we had met at Hachioji with Judge Kakatani, whose home is very near the Kofu school, and who has the reputation of cordially disliking Christians and foreigners. He was very kind and helpful, however, and I think our three days' journeying under difficulties helped to remove some of his prejudices.

The flood has been general over a large part of the country—bridges are gone, landslides blocked the roads, and houses and rice-fields are destroyed.

We got through after walking about eighteen miles, but we were the last to get through for a week; then it was necessary to walk between thirty and forty miles. One of our Japanese teachers walked seventy miles to get back to work, a pretty hard walk for a Japanese woman.

You will wonder, perhaps, why I went out to Kofu at all when my work is in Tokyo. The doctor said Miss Preston must not go back to work in the heat of September, so I went out with Miss Hargrave to help her get the work started. Returning I reached Tokyo last Saturday, coming back over the mountains, as the river is still too swollen to be passable. Miss Preston started to go out on Tuesday and probably reached the school to-day. She has grown stronger, but will need to be very careful this