

lengthy tunnel, where the darkness was made visible by two or three flickering lamps. During the last few miles the rain fell steadily, but an umbrella and waterproof apron kept one dry, and when we received a hospitable welcome in Mr. Cassidy's pleasant home, all the discomforts of the journey were quickly forgotten.

Next morning we had to be up betimes to visit the "Middle Higher School," where Mr. Cassidy teaches. I was announced to speak at seven o'clock, but it was an hour later before they were ready. The pupils consisted of about 350 lads and young men. All were dressed in foreign uniform—white trousers, jacket and cap—and are regularly drilled in military fashion. At length the marching was over, and the pupils were formed in a hollow square in front of the school building, and from the steps I addressed them, Mr. Hiraiwa interpreting as usual. I gave them some account of our school work in Ontario; spoke of the importance of a comprehensive education, and of the necessity of a moral substratum such as Christianity alone can supply; commended the study of English, as the language of commerce and philosophy, a language that would open to them a wide range of the best literature in the world. After the talk, tea and cake were served in one of the rooms. Some hours later the principal of the school called, in company with one of his teachers who speaks English, and tendered profuse thanks for my address. We had a pleasant chat about various matters.

In the afternoon a meeting was held in our church at 3 o'clock, when I was presented with a formal address in Japanese, with an English translation, both being read by members of the church. After my reply refreshments were served, consisting of tea and various kinds of cake. At half-past five we repaired to a Japanese restaurant, where a dinner had been prepared, and was served in foreign style. Everything was in good taste, and the kindness and courtesy of my entertainers made me feel quite at home. Complimentary words were spoken by one on behalf of the rest, to which I replied. As the feast proceeded a card was passed to me, on which was written, in Japanese, a request for "more words from your mouth." I took advantage of this request to give my impressions of Japan, referring to the evidences of change everywhere apparent in the social, educational and industrial life of the people, and took occasion, in view of the political freedom accorded by the new constitution, to urge the importance of a controlling moral power. When I had finished, the teacher already referred to who speaks English, said, "We have not words to express our gratitude for your precious address." We

then returned to the church, which was filled to its utmost capacity, while many stood outside, by the open door and windows. Mr. Hiraiwa delivered an earnest and impressive address, and afterwards interpreted for me while I discoursed on the theme, "If Christ be rejected—what then?"

On Sunday morning, June 30th, the church was crowded by a deeply attentive congregation, to whom I had the privilege of preaching that blessed Gospel which is "the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth." These Shidzuoka Christians are more advanced in religious knowledge than any others I had yet met, and can be addressed like any English congregation. It was here Dr. Macdonald began his work in the early days of the Japan Mission, and the state of the work to-day bears testimony to the skill and fidelity with which the foundations were laid. The membership of the Church is over two hundred, and includes a number of educated and influential people. The present pastor is Mr. Kobayashi, and under his labors the cause has steadily advanced. The congregation is much too large for the building, and as the present site will not admit of enlargement, an effort will be made to secure the adjoining lot. Failing this another site will be purchased elsewhere.

In the afternoon I visited the Girls' School, where Miss Cunningham, of our Woman's Missionary Society, has charge, assisted by Miss Morgan. About fifty were present, to whom I gave an address, dwelling chiefly upon the blessings which Christianity had brought to women, and the influence of Christian womanhood on the home and on society at large. The school at Shidzuoka was founded by a few earnest men, who saw the important bearing of the education of women on the future of Japan. A good work has already been done, and the future is bright with promise.

On Monday evening a lecture meeting was to be held in Shimidzu, the seaport of Shidzuoka, about seven miles distant. This meeting was looked forward to with a good deal of anxiety by our Shidzuoka people. The Buddhist priests, finding their craft to be in danger, had stirred up the people, who are mostly fishermen, to sign a paper promising that they would have nothing to do with Christianity, and that they would not go to hear the Christian teachers. The document was signed and sealed by all the people in the village but three or four, and feeling ran so high that some of our friends anticipated a disturbance. However, we went at the time appointed, and found the place—a hall above a story-teller's house—crammed to its utmost capacity, not less than four hundred being present. Some tried to interrupt Mr. Hiraiwa, who