

clared a slander on the Chinese, as well as on the earnest Christian teacher, for no S. S. class is more respectful or better behaved than Chinese; and ladies in other schools are generally the better teachers even if men were available. Moreover, even in China the tide is turning and the desire and the success of boys' schools being taught by Christian women as against Chinamen as heretofore, is noted. In this connection it was remarked that the individual or small-class method has a divine sanction, not only, but a prominent China missionary's remark was given declaring it the most useful method "there and that" more possibility of securing converts by dealing with them privately and in social conversation than otherwise." Bible study emphasized for the more advanced, though all go "to" tuk shing—read wholly—in reader, Bible catechism, and Gospel songs, but specially in the use of the Anglo-Chinese Gospels, with concert reading of the appointed lesson verses, those accepted for the coming year being the International lessons on the Life of Christ, with the radiator magazine expositions thereof in Chinese, also other appropriate literature. (A scholarly Christian recently returning selected from a number of Chinese books of which his teacher wished to give him several, first the Life of Christ, second an exposition of the Parable, and third a Bible Catechism). In the direction of the economizing time for the individual teaching lesson it is urged teachers and scholars go at once to their own table on arrival; the superintendent assisting to that end by allowing of no interruption during teaching, and themselves teaching a number, any teacher having failed to provide a substitute, rather than any go untought, also that the general closing exercises be brief and pertinent. Suggestively, a simple Gospel song or two, reading Bible lesson in concert or in Chinese, with brief comments in English or Chinese, and prayer concluding with the Lord's Prayer in English. The teacher may be excused if desirable before the general closing exercises. Touching the Mission week-night school though the attendance is limited by present circumstances it was agreed to ask each S. S. in alphabetical rotation to appoint several teachers for five evenings of a week to supply that need.

Co-operation—a united front by Christians in making it "hard to do wrong and easy to do right" is most important in this work as seen from the unsatisfactory results in a number of large cities. This peculiar and great advantage to work here is a matter of special remark by visiting Chinese and workers, and the Christian co-operation of the several denominations is much appreciated by the M. C. M. committee. The more our Christian responsibility that several untoward influences have lost their power, and opium, too, is out of the way, and there is not so much gambling as one is led to imagine, disapproval being common amongst our scholars. A Chinese club recently declared for no gambling. The approach of Christmas Tide brought up the matter of the usual popular entertainment, when Mr. Sinclair's provisional invitation to Taylor Church was cordially accepted; and the teachers asked to prepare some of the more advanced scholars with religious readings, recitations, or songs. Re Christmas present giving the superintendents action at a recent executive meeting was reported that holiday gifts leading, among other reasons, to diminished attendance at that season and otherwise compromising our work, be discouraged except to the extent of a simple Christmas reminder, and that the most needy and promising, and to many of them attractive object of China Missions with frequent appeals therefor, especially the Macao Mission, be urged as a substitute. Maltreatment to which

reference might begin with the Government, against whom there has been a boycott-feeling re exclusion, the danger of influx on the part of the Japanese now being nil, and the development of China's wonderful resources the proper solution of this question, now engaging the minds of the Chinese here even, and for which some of them could wish to fit themselves by special training were circumstances favorable. There comments on the boycott-forced backdown of the United States revealed the shortsightedness and humiliation there would suggest that due consideration being given this question by the Canadian Government, though the great advantage in the Far East has already been lost by the West to Japan. It might be added the value and need of them in domestic service across the country is often impressed on us. Municipally—they have also reason to complain, but console themselves against injustice with the visions of China's future. However the emphasis was laid on increase recently of popular abuse and criminal attacks upon them in our city, with considerable expense to them, and little to show in the way of adequate punishment owing to their difficulty of identification and inability to secure witnesses, while the "shortage in our police force" is no excuse for attacks over which in China there would be a great furor. A notetaking visit of our chief to Canton City or Japan would be instructive as to how they succeed in securing a culprit. What is most needed however is the displacing of the inborn and mistaken prejudice against them, by humane and fair feeling towards them as towards others. There is point to the remark of the Japanese that the only time he was maltreated was when he was mistaken for a Chinaman. We rejoice in the redeeming feature so much appreciated by them of the kindly Christian sympathy of so many teachers seeking their highest ———. Treasurer Grimson reported financial features to be satisfactory and after acceptance of Secretary's Nairn's invitation to meet in December at Crescent St. Church the meeting was closed with prayer touching above interests by Rev. Dr. Fleck.

#### MAGNANIMITY OF JAPAN

When we remember how often in the Bible the treatment of prisoners is made a test of a regenerated humanity, it will not be wondered at that we judge a nation's progress in moral development by its treatment of those taken captive in war. Our American missionaries resident in Japan have observed with unfeigned satisfaction the humanity shown by the Mikado's soldiers toward their enemies who have been in their hands. They have been treated rather as guests than as prisoners. Not only have they been supplied with good food and comfortable clothing, but doctors and nurses were kept among them, and regular excursions to the hot springs of Yogo, two miles out, were organized for their benefit. Of the 2,000 Russians cared for by the Japanese in the hospital at Matsuyama, only 27 died. A Japanese convert to the Greek church, under Bishop Nicolai, visited the Russians regularly and conducted religious service. A French Catholic priest took charge of the Polish prisoners; and when a Lutheran common soldier died, the prison officials sent for an American missionary to arrange funeral rites such as would have been accorded him in his own home. All of this shows the great change which has come over Japan since thirty years ago, when "Bushido" was indeed "the soul of Japan," when the victors in the Samurai war slew the wounded and mutilated the dead, though their victims were their own countrymen.

#### LITERARY NOTES.

The Interchurch Conference on Federation, which is to be held in New York from November 15 to 21 inclusive, will have on its programme the names of leading clergymen and laymen of practically every Protestant religious body on the continent. So notable a gathering has never before been held in this country, perhaps not in any other, and these men will discuss the great religious and social questions which affect all churches and are of deepest interest to all Christians. But a very small number of the great body of church-poets will be able to attend the Conference in New York, and the announcement is therefore important that the complete Proceedings, with the text of the addresses, will be published as soon as possible after the close of the meeting. It is to be an octavo volume of about eight hundred pages, and it is the purpose of the Committee on Publication to provide a book that in appearance, typography, illustrations, binding and all details of book-making, will reflect credit upon the Conference and be an appropriate medium for the carrying of the message of the gathering to the Christian homes of the country. The book will cost two dollars per volume to produce, and the Committee is now receiving advance subscriptions at that price. As the size of the edition will be limited to the number of copies certain to be placed those who wish copies of this permanent record of what is likely to rank as the most important religious gathering ever held in America, should communicate at once with the chairman of the Committee, Mr. William T. Denarest, at the Conference Headquarters, 90 Bible House, New York City.

The Biblot for October, T. B. Moser, Portland, Maine, is a specially interesting number, containing "Death's Disguises and other Sonnets" by Frank T. Marzials. The following sonnet will show the high quality of these selections:

O soul, God's artist, art thou then the slave  
Of that dull workman, Time? I tell  
then nay,  
He is thy studio-drudge, to mould youth's clay  
At thy behest, and at thy will to grave  
Manhood's stern marble. So guide the knave,  
Then shall each touch and chisel-stroke display  
In lines perchance now broken in the sway  
Of effort, now harmoniously saved  
The pure, high thought, which an inviolate will  
Guards from the passion-strokes of pain and ill,  
And slow corrosion of the mean and base;  
And to life's close, not only in the ken  
Of the great Master-Critic, but of men,  
Beauty shall sit enthroned upon that face."

No will is rightly strong that does not help some other will to be strong. To make your will the servant of love will be to call upon it for the highest exercise of all its power, and no will has ever been known to become weak that has thus placed itself under the control of love. For love teaches us to share, and strength shared is strength multiplied. A beautiful old collect runs, "Stir up, we beseech thee, O Lord, the wills of thy faithful people, that they plentifully bringing forth the fruit of good works may by thee be plentifully rewarded." It takes a strong man to be a good man, and a good will to be a strong will. Test the strength of your will, not by its vindictiveness and coercion, but by its helplessness to some one else.—Sunday School Times.