

subscribers. Will all our readers who are interested in Methodist Missions kindly help in this matter.

STILL ANOTHER OFFER. We have a large map of Japan, four feet square, prepared by the Rev. J. W. Saunby, B.A., showing the location of all our Missions. Just the thing for Missionary Auxiliaries, Sunday Schools and Epworth Leagues. For eight NEW subscribers, or fifteen RENEWALS we will send a copy of this map on paper. For twelve NEW subscribers, or twenty RENEWALS, the same map mounted on cotton. For twenty NEW subscribers, or thirty-five RENEWALS, the same map mounted on cotton with rollers. *These offers for Renewals are open only until January 20th.*

The Reward Books for 1895-96.

THE interests of our young Missionary Collectors have not been forgotten, as will be seen by the list of books provided for this year. The officers of the Society feel that their young friends have stood loyally by the Society, but would ask that this year an extra effort be put forth. Last year the offering from this source was \$23,939; which is a large amount of money; but, nevertheless, it is \$1,727 less than the previous year, and nearly \$4,000 less than the amount raised a few years ago. We are looking to our enthusiastic Sunday-School scholars to see if they cannot retrieve this lost ground. Now take hold with brave hearts and true, and He who blessed the young in the days of His flesh will honor the efforts put forth to send the Gospel to lighten the dark places of sin and cruelty. Which of us can measure the scope of the Master's "Inasmuch"? It will take eternity to reveal the wonders of His grace.

We have secured the following books, and will be glad to fill orders as quickly as they are received at the Mission Rooms:

No. 1. For Collectors of less than \$1. Sometimes letters are received saying, "We have a few Collectors who have amounts under a dollar, but I believe there is no book for these small sums." This is a mistake; we think the small sums much too important to be overlooked in that manner. "Maquaba Sitwana's Story," and the "White Guards," are the titles of two pleasing stories in this little book.

No. 2. For Collectors of \$1 and upwards. "Little Blue Bird" is a charming story, by John Strathesk, who knows so well how to make a story both pleasant and profitable to the young reader.

No. 3. For Collectors of \$2.50 and upwards. "Barbara Heck," a tale of early Methodism, is by our own Dr. Withrow, and is written in the Doctor's usual racy and readable style. It is just published, and we are told that it is being well received not only in Canada but in the United States.

No. 4. For Collectors of \$5 and upwards. "Forest, Lake and Prairie," by the Rev. John McDougall, is an interesting and exciting narration of personal experiences, illustrated by numerous engravings especially prepared for this work. To our boys this book will be particularly attractive.

No. 5. For Collectors of \$8 and upwards. "A Cloud of Witnesses" is a book which ought to be read by the young people that they may understand what it cost our forefathers to hand down to us the royal prerogative of worshipping God according to the dictates of our own conscience. It is well illustrated.

No. 6. For Collectors of \$12 and upwards. Never before have we been able to offer as fine a reward as "The Home of the Bible," by Marion Harland. The name of the author is a sufficient guarantee that the work is of a high order. It is written in the author's most happy style, and is copiously illustrated with engravings from photographic views taken in Palestine. Our \$12 Collectors may have to work hard, but they will have a sense of great satisfaction when they find themselves the possessor of so beautiful a work, which will be a valuable addition to their libraries.

Notes from Japan.

ON one of the hottest days in August we laid her first new-born babe in the mother's cold arms, and the day following, over the remains thus coffined, conducted the first funeral service of our Church in Toyama. Death is ever sad, but there was a peculiar pathos about the circumstances of this one that touched all hearts deeply. But yesterday, a faithful young couple, full of bright anticipation in sacred unborn treasure, and sundry tiny garments and fittings, even to the baby pillow, once more laid out to see that all was right; to-day the little head on that pillow is motionless, and the mother, though embracing her darling, knows it not, nor ever shall in this world. The husband-father is suddenly left alone, his earthly plans sadly broken, and the light of yesterday's hope entirely gone out. In such an hour one is forced to look for a moment on the dark side of things; but blessed be God, it need be only for a moment. It was "in sure and certain hope of a glorious resurrection" that we committed these bodies to the flame (as is the custom here and in many parts of Japan), and as I thought of it all once more my heart was greatly moved in profound thankfulness for our inalienable possession in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. "O what a glorious hope is ours!" And, thank God, the heart of the husband-father seems to have been moved in the same way. If it be objected that this is "other-worldliness," the obvious reply is that there are emergencies where nothing else avails, or at least nothing so well as the divine light that comes streaming from the other world. The Buddhist funerals are very noisy with the beating of gongs, clanging of symbols, and the loud voices of fussy, heartless coolies, who are employed to carry the dead, and the people would surely be impressed with our quiet, reverential burial service, full of humane feeling and devout aspiration, so different from the pessimistic suggestions and inane numery to which they are accustomed on such occasions. Grant, Lord, that somehow, and soon, these poor people, so dark, so ignorant, so superstitious, may find the true Light.

The missionaries have now returned from the various summer resorts, reinvigorated in mind, heart and body for the work of the year. Among the more popular resorts are Arima in the south, Karuizawa in the north of the main island, and Sapporo in the northern Hokkaido, better known at home as the Island of Yezo. At the two former places the "Conference" of missionaries seems to have settled into an annual affair. This year, at both places, quite the larger part of the programme was furnished by China missionaries, many of whom were taking a forced holiday by reason of the recent riots. In seemed, in some measure, a providential compensation for their hasty flight that they were able to find much needed rest, amid agreeable surroundings and companionships, just at the hottest