

In a subsequent letter, dated December 4th, 1875, an appeal is made for additional help, with a promise of liberal assistance as soon as a missionary should arrive at Yokohama. With this stand accompanied the following

CONSIDERATIONS REGARDING THIS FIELD.

Numadzu is a flourishing town. Two miles and a half north; at the foot of the Hakone Mountains is another town of considerable size—Mishima. From Numadzu towards Shidzuoka for six or eight miles is a continuous village. About two miles further on is another populous place called Oshiwara.

I became acquainted with Mr. Yebara over a year ago, on going to Numadzu, to visit some sick persons. I also became acquainted with several young men, and I know that an interest is felt in regard to Christianity.

I have also been at Oshiwara several times to see the sick, and became acquainted with a number of persons there. A short time ago the head man of the place (mayor or reeve) sent me word that the people would like to have a missionary live amongst them, and invited me to come and live in the place over which he has jurisdiction, when my term in Shidzuoka shall have expired.

About a month ago some men came from a village near Oshiwara to Shidzuoka on business. They heard at the hotel that there was preaching of the Gospel here, and six of them came to make enquiries. They wished to hear about the Gospel at once, but as I had just returned from school they came back after a couple of hours, and I tried to tell them about the Saviour. I also gave them a copy of the Bible in Chinese, some tracts, etc. The next evening was prayer-meeting, and the six, accompanied by six others, came, and having heard the word a second time, returned to their own village.

The places referred to above are only about ten miles from Numadzu.

I mention these things in order to show that the people have no real hatred towards missionaries, and that an interest is felt in Christianity.

Of course if a man should go to Numadzu, he could not at once speak to the people in their own language, but Mr Yebara told me that there are ninety students connected with the Academy—a congregation to begin with—that would manage to get the meaning of the missionary's communication. I will not speak of probable results, but it is a grand opportunity. Please send a man.

I think that the missionaries should get the schools of Japan under their influence as far as possible, that the education which the young men receive may be a Christian education. You can easily imagine the ruinous effect which a teacher of infidel principles would have upon a school like that of Numadzu.

If you should send a man and his wife, it would be well not to bring anything except such things as they could bring in their trunks; such as table cutlery, sheets, etc. It would be well for them to buy a cooking stove in San Francisco and bring it in the same ship by which they come.

As to the future, concerning myself, I may say that, making allowance for such contingencies as may occur in this country, I expect to remain in Shidzuoka, and, if my way opens, I think *I should remain*.

Will you have the goodness to favour me with a reply as to whether you think it well to send a man or not. Ships leave San Francisco 1st and 15th of each month. If your letter should reach San Francisco in time for the ship of 1st February, it will probably reach here about 27th.