



SHINTO SHRINE, NEAR YOKOHAMA.

member of the most important committees, and his talents and capacity for business were fully recognized by his co-delegates.

On Sunday, the 7th of December last, the useful life of Dr. Henderson came to an end. He died quietly and happily at half past four in the afternoon, having received the last rites of the Church from the hands of his son-in-law, the Rev. E. P. Crawford.

While his family mourn his loss, they are comforted by the conviction that his faithful service to his God will receive its due reward.

JAPAN.

BY REV. J. COOPER ROBINSON.

IN account of its position and physical features, Japan has been not incorrectly described as "the Great Britain of the East." It occupies the same position towards Asia as Britain does to Europe, being but a few miles distant from the main land, but differs from its western namesake in being composed of a much greater number of islands, there being in the Japanese archipelago four large islands and an almost innumerable number of small ones.

The area of Japan is about a fifth less than that of the Province of Ontario, and the population is now about \$40,000,000. The four principal islands lie between the thirty-first and forty-sixth parallel of north latitude, their united

length being about twelve hundred miles and the breadth of the main island varying from a hundred to a hundred and seventy-five miles.

Though possessing few high peaks Japan is decidedly a mountainous country, and the scenery generally is very picturesque. The most lofty mountain, Fji San, is a beautiful cone 13,000 feet high, and there are several others ranging from 4,000 to 9,000 feet. Many of the mountains are volcanoes, mostly extinct or quiet, but eruptions occasionally take place. Shocks of earthquake are of frequent occurrence, especially in the neighborhood of the capital and in the southernmost island, and have sometimes been attended with disastrous results.

Japan has a few rivers which are important waterways, being navigable by boats of light draught, but most of the rivers during the greater part of the year are nothing more than torrent beds through which a very small stream ripples over the stones. During the rainy seasons, however, these apparently harmless streams suddenly become swollen to a great size, and if it were not for artificial banks, which have been constructed at great expense, the most fruitful parts of the country would then be inundated. Mountain streams are numerous and there are said to be more than six hundred waterfalls in the country, the largest of which is eight hundred feet high and one hundred feet broad.

Lakes abound to the number of about two hundred, but with one exception they are not large. Some of them, however, are exceedingly