

—a striking evidence of the extent to which western works are intruding into this land of the Orient.

On Friday I went with Dr. McDonald and Bros. Saunby and Cassidy, to see the site of the proposed Central Mission Hall. This reference opens up a somewhat wide question. For years Dr. Eby has entertained the large project of "reaching the brain of Japan" by means of lectures, apologetic, philosophic, scientific, delivered in the neighborhood of the university, where he hoped to capture many of the student class. His lectures delivered in the Meji Kwaido, near Tsukiji, several years ago, attracted large audiences, and this was regarded, not unnaturally perhaps, as an indication of what could be done permanently, elsewhere, on a larger scale. Dr. Eby's first project was that of a vast Institute involving, in its various departments, an expenditure reaching up into six figures. The scope was comprehensive, embracing everything from scientific lectures on the one hand to Salvation Army tactics on the other; but the central idea appears to have been lectures on the Apologetics of Christianity which, it was expected, would carry the intellect of Japan with a rush. There was a splendid audacity about the proposal that was, in itself, somewhat fascinating; but it is not surprising that sober minded men, in the mission and out of it, regarded the scheme with a measure of distrust. The members of the Mission Council, with the exception of Dr. Eby, were of opinion that the building of a hall to be used for all purposes—lectures, sermons, concerts, entertainments, and what not—was an undertaking to which we were not providentially called; that whatever was done should be strictly on evangelistic lines, and in such a shape that, in case of Dr. Eby's death or removal to another field of labor, it could be carried on just as well by someone else; and that from the very first, the aim should be to gather a self-supporting native church. In carrying out such a design the original plans should be entirely changed. What is needed, in my judgment (and with this opinion the Mission Council is in perfect accord), is a church building of attractive appearance, capable of seating say 600 persons, and so planned as to admit of enlargement when necessary. Such a building will hold all who are likely to attend special lectures, and the ordinary work of gathering and building up a permanent church can go on without interruption under a native pastor. Before I left Japan the whole question was discussed with Dr. Eby, and although there was a not unnatural feeling of regret at the limitations placed upon a project in which his sympathies were so deeply enlisted, he cheerfully and loyally acquiesced in the wishes of his brethren, and promised to throw all his energies into the line of

work recommended by the Mission Council. Before dismissing the subject I may say that at a subsequent stage it was decided to dispose of the site already purchased, so that another might be procured in a much better locality. This, while of great advantage to the mission, will involve some additional expense, and hence special contributions from friends of the cause will be quite in order.

FIELD NOTES.

ONE of the encouraging features about the Chinese work on the Pacific Coast is the disposition shown by the people to help themselves. Not only do they contribute toward the current income of the various Missions, but in some instances give substantial donations to special objects. In connection with the opening of the new Chinese Mission buildings in Vancouver, B.C., a subscription was given by the native Christians and their friends amounting to \$427. This, considering the circumstances of the people, is a noble offering, and speaks well for the future of the Mission.

IN the Dialogue for Mission Bands on Manitoba and the North-West, published in the Woman's Department of the September OUTLOOK, the names of two or three of our most faithful missionaries were accidentally omitted. We refer to the Rev. Thos. Woolsey, who was in labors abundant for many years in the region of Whitefish Lake and surrounding territory, after which he returned to old Canada, still continuing in the work until about five years ago, when he retired from the active ministry, and is now residing in Toronto. The Revs. Chas. Stringfellow and P. Campbell also deserve honorable mention.

THE ladder which in Jacob's vision was let down from heaven to earth seems to teach us, among other things, that the way to heaven is a *climb*, up. But the encouragement is, that, though it be a tiresome climb, it is a climb toward heaven. So we can afford it. Rest is at the top, and a long rest it is. Weary one be cheered. Thank God that you are not going down the ladder, instead of up; it is a *climb*, not a *fall*.—*Intelligencer*.

THERE are two thousand Icelanders in the city of Winnipeg, and a Presbyterian Mission has been formed under the care of a converted Icelander. An Icelandic hymn book has been printed, and there are two Icelandic newspapers. No church organization has yet been begun among these children of the north, but there are evidences that this will soon be needed.

THE Thames Church Mission, London, England, last year put into the hands of the 40,000 emigrants passing through London, 14,500 packets of magazines and tracts, and 10,000 Bibles and Testaments.