

OUR APRIL CATECHISM.

Q. What is our newest Foreign Mission Field ?

A. Korea. Find it on a map.

Q. When did our Church take up mission work in Korea ?

A. During the past year, 1898.

Q. Where do we see the first visible steps leading to the Korean Mission ?

A. In the death of a minister's little boy in Nova Scotia more than twenty years ago.

Q. How did this lead towards a mission to Korea ?

A. His Father, in memory of the boy, gave one hundred dollars, the interest of which was to be used each year in purchasing books on Foreign Missions for the library of the Presbyterian college, Halifax.

Q. What was the next step

A. A student, William J. McKenzie, reading one of these books, called, "The Hermit Nation," (Korea) decided to give his life to mission work in that land.

Q. How did he go ?

A. As our church had no mission there, he went six years ago, trusting to what his friends in Nova Scotia might do to provide for his needs.

Q. What was his success ?

A. Very good while he lived.

Q. How long did he work ?

A. Between two and three years, when he died.

Q. What became of his work ?

A. The people among whom he was working sent a letter to the church in the Maritime Provinces asking for another missionary.

Q. What was the answer ?

A. The church decided to take up the mission, and last summer five missionaries, three men and two women, were sent forth to Korea by our Foreign Mission Committee, East.

Q. What are the names of our five missionaries in Korea.

A. Rev. Wm. Foote and Mrs. Foote, Rev. R. Grierson, M.D., and Mrs. Grierson, and Rev. Dr. Macrae.

Q. Where are those five missionaries settled ?

A. In the two Provinces of Korea, Ham Kyong and Kang Wou.

Q. What are the two largest cities which will be their centres of work ?

A. Wonsan and Ham Hung.

Q. Where are they now at work ?

A. In Wonsan, with a population of 50,000.

Q. What are the prospects of the mission ?

A. Good ; the people are very ready to receive the Gospel.

When you pray for our missions and missionaries, do not forget our newest mission, Korea.

VISITING IN JAPAN.

LET us go into the house. As we approach, a little maid servant comes to the front. She gets down on her knees, spreads out her hands on the floor, and bumps her little head on the mats in order to show us respect. She asks us to take off our shoes and come in.

The Japanese never wear shoes in the house, and we have already learned that it would be far more polite to keep our hats on than our shoes. So in our stocking feet we step up into the house and take our seat on the cushions.

Very soon some of the family come in. They bow low, getting down on their knees and bending again and again to the floor. As they rise, they suck in their breath with a loud, half-whistling sigh, as though they were overcome by the honor of our calling on them. We do the same as we bow in return.

Then the maid servant brings in a little tray, which she places before us on the floor. It contains a porcelain teapot and some little cups, each about the size of half an egg-shell. The little servant gets down on her knees and offers them to us, with a bow. We drink from them in Japanese style, sucking the tea in with a loud sipping noise to show we like it. -Selected.

THROUGH THE DOOR.

A minister's little girl and her playmate were talking about serious things. "Do you know what a backslider is?" the former questioned.

"Yes; it's a person that used to be a Christian and isn't," said the playmate promptly.

"But what do you s'pose makes them call them backsliders?"

"Oh, that's easy. You see, when people are good, they go to church and sit up in front. When they get a little tired of being good they slide back a seat, and keep on sliding till they get clear back to the door. After a while they slide clear out and never come back to church at all."

The only safe way is never to begin backsliding.