

THE LIGHT FROM THE CROSS:

There's a light from the cross! There's a light from the Word!
It is flooding the earth with the joy of the Lord!
And hearts that were aching
In darkness, and breaking,
Are chanting his praises in blissful accord.

Bow down, eastern mountains! The Saviour has come!
And sing, O ye fountains, in every wide zone!
To every dark nation
The glad proclamation,
Is offering welcome, and pardon, and home.

Ay! crumble to dust in your temples of gold,
Ye idols so ancient and stony and cold!
The people are yearning
For comfort, and learning
The best, sweetest story that every was told.

There's a light from the cross! there's a light from the Word!
And the kingdoms of earth are the realms of our Lord!
Our Saviour victorious,
So tender, so glorious!
We praise thee, we bless thee, in reverent accord!

—Exchange.

FIELD STUDY FOR NOVEMBER.

OUR SOCIETY.

The Woman's Missionary Society of the Methodist Church of Canada was organized in the City of Hamilton, Ontario, November 8th, 1881—it is therefore nearly eighteen years old.

The General Missionary Society of our church, organized in 1824, fifty-seven years before ours, had come to see that the best work among the women and children of heathen lands could only be done by Christian women, consecrated to that special purpose.

So it came to pass that our society was organized on the recommendation of the General Board of Missions, and endorsed by the General Conference of the Methodist church. They thought it a good thing to do.

"Its object is to evangelize (instruct in the Gospel of Christ) heathen women and children; to aid in sustaining lady missionaries and teachers, and other special laborers in the home or foreign fields, and to raise funds for the work of the society.

Our relation to the general society, as given in the Report, is this: The Women's Missionary Society works in harmony with the authorities of the General Missionary Society of the Methodist Church, and is subject to their approval in the employment and remuneration of missionaries or other agents, the designation of its fields of labor, and the general plan and design of the work."

Our fields of labor are largely decided by the fields into which its missionaries have already gone.

Our fields, as entered by our missionaries, are Japan, British Columbia, Quebec and China.

Our largest work is in Japan. Our mission stations there are Tokio, Shizuoka, Kofu, Kanazawa, Nagano.

Next month Tokio and the work done there will form our Field Study.

A TIDAL WAVE IN JAPAN.

YOU all know about the tides of the ocean, though many of you who live far inland have never seen them, as they ebb and flow twice each day. Have you ever read of the tidal waves that sometimes, without any warning, sweep in from the sea, bearing all before them in their swift approach, and falling back quite as swiftly, dragging with them people and houses and everything that can float?

Dr. DeForest, of Japan, in writing to his son in this country, describes what he saw in the town of Aigawa, which was almost blotted out by a tidal wave in June last. Here is the story Dr. DeForest tells:

"There were forty-three houses, with 376 persons, and in a few moments thirty-seven houses were wholly ruined and five more half wrecked. Nothing but a little temple further up the hill was unharmed. One hundred and fifty-eight persons were killed and thirty-three wounded. The village was at the head of a little bay with rocky sides, so that the great wave crowded into the narrow space, rose twenty or thirty feet, and rushed upon the houses, breaking them into kindling wood and then, withdrawing, sucked a large part out into the ocean.

"I saw one great pine tree, fifty or sixty feet high, in the branches of which two men were caught, as the waves were sweeping them far out to sea. I saw one poor mother with her little babe in her bosom, but her husband and other children were drowned. She seemed dazed and would not speak to us. One man told us he lost every member of his family, wife, children, and parents, six in all, and only himself was left. He told me this with a smile, but I knew his heart was sad beyond telling. We ate rice in the house of another man, who pointed to his roof—a great, broad, thatched roof—and said: "That house used to stand way off at the other end of the village, and it was whirled completely around by the wave. Eleven persons were in it when it was struck, and when we cut a hole in the roof, we found nine of them saved and two dead." The old lady who was in that roof cooked our rice for us and I gave her a yen for it.

Is it not a good thing that our missionaries are where they can care for and comfort these poor people in such distress.—[Dayspring.]

QUESTIONS FOR NOVEMBER.

When was our Woman's Missionary Society organized, and where?

When was the General Missionary Society Organized?

Why was it organized?

How are we related to the General Missionary Society?"

What largely decides our fields of labor?

Name our fields in the order in which work was begun in them.

In which is the largest work?

Name, and point out on map, our Mission stations in Japan