

bility for their welfare, and grants substantial financial aid to every organized effort for their improvement. They are willing to erect school buildings and defray half the teachers' salary, leaving one-half to be paid by the society which furnishes the missionary. The great obstacle to improvement is the wandering instinct that seems to be a part of the Indian nature. To overcome this thoroughly, and establish habits of orderly and settled industry, the children must be taken when young and trained in the habits and trades of civilized life, being, at the same time, kept separate from the old influences until they are old enough to look out for themselves. Even after reaching the age of manhood, many, so trained, seem to rapidly drift back into their old traditions and method of life. For this reason, some missionaries are now advocating the establishment of industrial colonies, where the pupils of the Indian industrial schools can be settled out of reach of temptation, a method similar to that used by the Salvation Army in reclaiming the inhabitants of city slums.

THE PRESENT WORK.

There are already eighteen Indian industrial schools in the Dominion, and 277 Government day schools. The latter are, in many cases, doing fair work; but, not having the religious element, are entirely powerless among pagan communities, where there is no home discipline, and attendance cannot be enforced. The industrial schools are mainly confined to the North-West and British Columbia; the twelve thousand pagan Indians of northern Ontario are without any help of this kind. A great work has been and is being accomplished by the pioneers in the work, and those who have more recently gone to the field. The names of Young, McDougall, Crosby and others are pre-eminent among those who have accomplished great things in the face of great difficulties. Now that the difficulties are not so great, although the need is, if anything, in many parts more urgent, an effort should be put forth to extend and, in a measure, complete the work, and in the rapid opening up of our country in the near future to incorporate into our national life the noble traits of which the Indian is capable, rather than the many base ones to which he is also prone.

E. M. BURWASH.

Educational Work.

BY REV. M. TAKAJI.*

As both right and left wings are equally important to birds, so evangelical and educational works are both equally important in missionary lands. But it seems to me that real success of the former cannot be attained without the latter. The common education does not concern the direct preaching of Christianity; but the true education which is founded upon the sound principle of Christianity gives indirectly a strong influence upon the students and gradually wins them to Christ. It is something like the sun in *Æsop's* fable: "The stronger the wind blew, the more firmly the traveller wrapped himself up in his overcoat instead of taking it off; but when the sun began to shine upon him the traveller took off his overcoat." Education does not make a direct request to the heathen to remove their garments of heathenism. But when the light of true

education dawns upon their minds they find their old garments heavy and burdensome, and finally cast them off. The success of Japan missions is due greatly to education. The leaders who have the greatest influence over the people are those who have been educated in Christian schools, either at home or abroad. Not only pastors and ministers, but also Christian writers, Christian journalists and other Christians who occupy important positions, politically, commercially and socially, have some connection with Christian schools. Those young men and young women who studied in Christian schools are all in favor of Christianity, if not believers yet. Not only young men and women, but the parents who have sent their children to Christian schools, are all also in favor of Christianity, and do not hesitate to give all possible aid to the Christian evangelization. This is the case of Japan, but I believe this must be true in any other country. Pray, therefore, for the success of the educational work in mission lands as well as for the evangelistic.

Moreover, the educational work must be promoted in order that the evangelical work may live; that is to say that spirit-filled leaders may be furnished for the native churches. I do not under estimate the work of foreign missionaries in the evangelical field. But remember that their successful work cannot be done without help of the native leaders. "If the Christian Church is ever to recover its influence, its ministers must make themselves acquainted with the social questions of their time." A venerable historian said, "They must expel conventionalism and euphemism and vagueness from their sermons, and they must make their congregations familiar with the heroes of national history." How can foreigners be familiar with the native history and the every-day questions of their missionary land as the natives can? They may succeed in learning the native language perfectly, and be acquainted with some customs and manners which are visible to every eye, but can by no means enter into the heart of the people. The true confidence of the natives is always given to their own leaders. Therefore, to attain real success in the evangelical work, we must train the native leaders. Pray, therefore, for the education of the native leaders as well as missionaries.

The leaders must be men thoroughly educated, intellectually and spiritually. God does not need the ignorant to do His work. When China fought against Japan recently she was defeated in every battle. Why? Because she was not well equipped. Why cannot poor Spain overcome the rebels of Cuba and the Philippine Islands? Is it not because she is not well equipped? An unequipped army never can win a victory. So in the spiritual field. Both missionaries and natives must be equipped with spiritual armour before they go to the battlefield. As a nation furnishes training for its army, so Christians must furnish the good training for those who are going to the spiritual battlefield, so that they may be able to fight the good fight. Pray, therefore, that spiritual leaders may be trained for the great work of winning souls.

The human family living on earth to-day consist of about 1,450,000,000 persons in round numbers. Of these only about 500,000,000, or one-third, are even properly clothed; 250,000,000 habitually go naked; 700,000,000 have only the middle part of their bodies covered; only 500,000,000 live in houses, 700,000,000 in huts and caves, while the remaining 250,000,000 have no home or shelter whatever.

* Rev. M. Takaji is a native minister of the Japanese Conference, who for educational advantages, has left his wife and children in Japan and is taking a course of study in Victoria University, where his expenses are being borne by the students of "Victoria." Mr. Takaji writes from the standpoint of an educated Christian Japanese, whose highest aim is the uplifting of his countrymen.