

new mission school in Sendai, one of the largest and most important cities in Northern Japan. Sendai is the chief town in a large, populous and prosperous province, and the influence this new mission school is fitted to exert is unquestionably great. At the opening of this school three months ago there were more than 130 students enrolled at once, and many more were anxious to enter, but the resources of the institution being taxed to the utmost, no more could be admitted. The principal people in the city are anxious to have their sons educated there, and are contributing to the support of the school. With the exception of the maintenance of two or three missionary teachers, all the expenses of the school are provided for by the people themselves.

This recently opened school is conducted on Christian principles. It is opened in the morning with the reading of the Scriptures and prayer, and the truths of Christianity form part of the daily course of instruction. This Japanese student at Yale recalls how different in these respects matters were only ten years ago, when mission schools at Kiyoto were first opened. Scarcely a dozen students sought to be enrolled at that time. The Government authorities prohibited the reading of the Bible in the school, and Christian instruction was forbidden. Students desirous of learning the truths of Christianity had to repair to the homes of the missionaries, where they were gladly welcomed. Great and beneficent is the change that in God's good providence has been wrought.

The communication of the Japanese student closes with an expression of opinion which he assures us is shared by many of his friends. It is one which in the main was also expressed by one of the most devoted of modern Christian missionaries, Dr. Alexander Duff, and commends itself to many. It is that the success of the Gospel in foreign lands is in the first instance mainly dependent on educational work. The aim should be that a native ministry, which is best fitted for the work of evangelization, should be trained and equipped as speedily as possible. This is claimed to be specially applicable to the circumstances of Japan. It is what all sections of the Christian Church are striving for, and they are appealing earnestly to the British and American Churches for Christian men and women who are apt to teach, and for increased means to carry forward this most promising mission field in the world.—*Canada Presbyterian.*

AN ANECDOTE OF DR. MOFFATT.

The following instructive anecdote was told by the late Rev. Robert Moffatt, D.D., at one of the London Missionary Society meetings :

He and his companions had travelled in the interior all day and night, weary and without food. They

approached a village inhabited by the Coraumas, who were accustomed to bloodshed and rapine. An individual who met them warned them against entering the village ; they would do so at their peril. He pointed them to the heights beyond the town where he said they could sleep for the night. We tied about us the fasting girdle to prevent the gnawing of hunger. We looked at each other, for we were hungry and thirsty and fatigued beyond measure. At last an individual came. We asked for water. It was refused. I offered two or three buttons remaining on my jacket for a little milk. It was refused with scorn, it was evident that something was brewing in the minds of the people, and we had good reason to be alarmed. We lifted up our hearts to God. There we sat ; and as we gazed saw a woman descend from the heights. She approached with a vessel in her hand and a bundle of wood. The vessel contained milk. Having set them down she immediately retired, and shortly came back, bringing a vessel of water in one hand and a leg of mutton in the other. She sat herself down, and cut up the meat. We asked her name, and if there was any relative of hers to whom we had shown any kindness ; but she answered not a word. I again asked her to tell to whom we were indebted, and after repeating the question three or four times, she replied : " I know whose servants you are, and I love Him who hath told me, ' He that giveth a cup of cold water to one of My disciples, shall in no wise lose his reward.' " Her words seemed to glow, while she wept profusely to see one of the servants of Christ. On inquiring into her history I found she was a solitary lamp burning in that village. I asked her to tell me how she had kept the light of God alive in her soul. She drew from her bosom a Testament, and, holding it up, said : " That is the fountain from which I drink—that is the oil which keeps my lamp burning in this dark place ! " I looked at the book ; it was a Dutch Testament, printed by the British and Foreign Bible Society. It was given her by a missionary when she left school ; and it was that book that was the means of her conversion, and had kept alive her piety, without any teaching, save that of the Holy Ghost, or any Christian fellowship except communion with God. " He that goeth forth weeping bearing precious seed shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him."

ASIATIC TURKEY.

The Rev. R. Chambers, formerly of Whitchby, now of Erzerum, has written an interesting letter to the Rev. D. M. Gordon, Winnipeg, from which the following are extracts :

The parties on whose behalf I originally wrote you are entirely unable to scrape up passage money. The old father—about seventy years old—in despair started