THE

SENDAI STATION REPORT

1900.
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1909.

PART 1. General.

No year since my return from the States five years ago has given so much satisfaction as the year 1900. No year has witnessed so many signs of new life and responsibility on the part of the Christians. Here are a few illustrations of this.

For the first time in many years the Christians have responded to my suggestion to send delegates to the Annual Meeting of the Kumiai Churches. Heretofore pastors and evangelists wanted to go, but could not afford the expense themselves and saw no hope of persuading the Christians to send them. So this spring, when the Christians of Aizu (the southern part of this field) urged me to send an evangelist to Kitagata, I told them that it was their business to send two delegates to the Annual Meeting at Kobe and show up the real needs of the
North and appeal for an evangelist. I offered, in case the Christians would raise twenty yen themselves without levying any contributions on their pastors, to give forty more, and this would easily send two representatives. They raised the money in an hour and sent their pastor and evangelist, who not only found the needed evangelist, but took advantage of this outing to secure each a wife for himself.

Then I urged the northern Christians to do the same, and to my surprise they also sent two delegates. These visits to the great centers of Christian influence, Tokyo, Osaka, Kobe, and conferences with the leading pastors, were a great blessing to the four delegates who brought back new enthusiasm and hope, and far more power to educate their groups of Christians into the idea of self-support, and what is more, into the thought of these little churches as a mighty spiritual and moral power in the regeneration of society. I count it one of the best
practical moves of the last five years that the Christians of this distant field have come more in touch with the main body of the Kumi-ai Christians.

Beside the new zeal of the delegates, one other immediate result was manifested. The Annual Meeting voted to send Messrs. Kozaki and Tsunajima to the Aizu valley to encourage the Christians and to hold theater meeting in the large towns. For this purpose the Aizu Christians raised another twenty yen, and I aided them with a similar sum. The meetings were immensely enthusiastic and the theaters were crowded.

The Mizusawa Christians who began last year to pay their evangelist two yen a month, have been asked to increase it to five yen, and I think they will do so. The Wakamatsu Christians are raising several yen more than heretofore, but the pastor's needs are increased, so that mission aid is not lessened. The Sendai Christians also are
raising more than they did last year by calling upon their absent members to maintain their financial relations to the church unless membership has been transferred.

One more illustration of a new life is seen in that the Christians have united to publish a monthly paper called "The Northern Religious News." Nine numbers have already appeared. The edition is 250, and it costs only 2.80 yen each issue. It is a new bond of union with the scattered 300 believers.

The Congregational Christians have no school within 500 miles of Sendai and it is almost impossible for Christians parents to send their daughters so far. The question seems to be solving itself. The Baptist Girls' School has always been unable to secure teachers from their own constituency, and has had three from our church. So it naturally happens that Congregational girls go to the Baptist school. As the school is ably managed and its Christian spirit is al-
most exceptional, we are well pleased that six of our girls have been students there during the year. One of these is the leading scholar of the school. We have aided only one of these girls, and that to an insignificant extent.

OUR VISITORS.

This has been an exceptional year for Sendai in visits by gifted friends from the States. First came Dr. and Mrs. F E. Clark, whose three days here were filled with meetings, morning noon and night. I invited all our pastors and evangelists to Sendai to confer directly with the man who has done so much for the world. They were deeply impressed with all they heard and they formally voted to put in operation all they could of Christian Endeavor. It was at this time that they also resolved to start the above mentioned paper, which is proving to be a most valuable kind of circular letter to send to the absent Christians throughout
the empire and even in the States.

Next came Prof. G. F. Wright and his son Fred, as delightful a couple as the two who had preceded them. Prof. Wright's reputation as a scientist at once attracted the attention of the teachers and students of the city who extended him cordial invitations to lecture. The Christian students had him speak on the Evidences of Christianity in the Government College to an audience of about 300. Then the Educational Society and Officials secured a lecture from him on The Ice Age, before a thousand people in the Prefectural Hall. We were delighted and instructed with fifty stereopticon views that represented his own experiences and discoveries, and the Professor carried away a substantial proof that the people of Sendai highly appreciated his visit.

Then came President Jordan, caring nothing for the heat of midsummer in his enthusiasm for Japanese fishes, of which he
found several new varieties right in the city market. We missionaries invited him here so that the educated classes might meet not only the head of a great university and an eminent scientist, but that they might hear him speak on moral lines, such as he wrote in The Independent last spring. I was unable to be present, but Dr. Schneider introduced him to the people and he was so much pleased with his reception that he took back to California a promising young man to educate in his university.

Last of all came Miss A. M. Reynolds, Secretary of the World's Y. W. C. A., with the story of that grand movement. The wide work she has done all through the world would of course secure her a warm welcome anywhere, and we gladly introduced her to the Christian Schools of the city and to a large audience of women in our church. But her visit was an especial delight to me, as her father was the near-
est pastor to me thirty years ago in Connecticut, and was one of the best friends I had among the ministers of the State.

Four visits in a year from such representative persons is a bit of good fortune worthy of permanent record. It shows what great aid our foreign friends can give in educating the people to the wide influences of Christianity. Although these visitors went to no other city in this part of Japan, yet the papers wrote them up thoroughly and thus the whole province got the benefit of their words and deeds.

Now to climb down to our own mission, we must mention Mr. Allchin's visit to this field and his generous touring of a month. It is not much of a climb down when judged from the results. We had often heard of his celebrated lectures, but not a half was told. He went through all the towns and villages where we have work, his audiences increasing as he went until the theaters were all too small. At my re-
quest Mr. Loomis kindly attached Mr. Snyder to this tour as Bible seller. It was the first time Mr. Allchin has ever had this combination, and it was a great success. His tract on the Prodigal Son sold beyond all expectation and the sale of Testaments and Gospels was more than any of us thought possible. 1088 tracts and about 2000 gospels were sold.

OTHER LECTURES.

The year 1900 will always be memorable on account of the great moral wave that came over Japan on the question of public prostitution. By a collision of police regulations with civil law, thousands of unfortunate girls whose relatives had sold them for a term of years, were virtually held in this fearful slavery for life. Some missionaries have done noble work in exposing the inconsistency of the Government and in aiding these girls to escape from their employers. But not until the Hon. Shimada
Saburo, M. P., the proprietor of the Mai Nichi Shimbun, and one of the ablest orators of Japan as well as a Christian, entered the lists, did Japan awake to the situation. I ventured, though unacquainted with him, to invite him to Sendai to speak on this subject. He gladly came and the great theater was crowded to hear his splendid lecture of two hours. It was one of the most uplifting lectures morally that Sendai has ever heard.

One other lecture that no missionary had any thing to do with deserves mention in order to show how moral forces outside of organized Christianity are at work in Japan. Miss T. Yasui was educated in England at Government expense, and on her return became a teacher in the Higher Girls’ Normal School. One of her former friends invited her to Sendai, and she was asked to lecture twice before the teachers of the city. She most vividly narrated the way English schools impressed her. I was delighted
with her full statements as to the large part Christianity has in the education of the young. This indeed was the burden of her lecture, and coming from a Government teacher it had a hearing that no missionary could have had.

THE AIZU MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

This little society has done a good work, raising over 100 yen for their evangelist. The Station has cooperated with it, contributing about the same amount. There have been four baptisms.

BAPTISMS.

It has been a good year. About twice as many have been baptized this year as last, 48 in all. Of these Wakamatsu takes the lead, having 21, and Sendai only 12.
## STATISTICS.

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PART 2. WOMAN'S WORK.

Miss Bradshaw's work continues on much the same lines as heretofore. She has one Bible Class in the church, and two Sunday Schools at her house, one with an average attendance of 60.

During the week she carries on Bible Classes with the students of both the Middle and Higher Government Schools, which with their 2000 students, are within almost a stone's throw of our houses. These classes make a systematic study of the Bible, and cannot fail to learn much of the Christ we believe in.

Christian Endeavour work has an able advocate in Miss Bradshaw, and without her valuable assistance, Dr. and Mrs. Clark would not have had so hearty a welcome, and so many opportunities of work. Her influence is felt in this work as for as Kobe, and she attended the meeting there in the spring.

This year as in the last, the majority of
those baptized in the Sendai Church were the result of her work.

From March to June most of her time was spent in touring, coming back to Sendai only to meet important classes. These trips were occupied with daily addresses and often with more than one a day. She was obliged to drop all touring during the fall from lack of funds.

She has had no regular Bible woman because there is a scarcity of them all through the land. But from the early part of May through the summer she had an exceptionally helpful Bible woman, and for that reason she sacrificed the needed summer vacation and put in a summer of steady work. To make things more attractive she opened her lawn six or seven times for all day picnics for the Christians and their friends, who brought their lunches and held religious meetings under the trees. These meetings averaged about 55. A permanent reading room was also fixed up in the second story where they could
stay and read or chat all day. These arrangements proved useful in bringing into closer acquaintance and fellowship former church members who were home on vacation and those newer members living here.

Mr. Nishikido, who had been Miss Bradshaw’s teacher ever since her return from the States, was employed by the Government as an English teacher in the fall, much to the loss of the work here. So Miss Bradshaw has had to work with various substitutes through the fall. But all through the year she has been very fortunate in having Mr. Ogawa, who has been her Bible woman, teacher, amanuensis, and invaluable assistant in all kinds of work. The beauty of it is that he gained his thorough knowledge of the Bible mainly through Miss Bradshaw and the English books she lent him.

Wide correspondence has been kept up with absent members, which is one important way of keeping alive the faith.

We are glad the allowance for lady mis-
missionaries has been increased, for, with the great increase in prices, it is impossible to carry on a work like Miss Bradshaw's on the old salary.

Mrs. DeForest aids the Christians in two Sunday Schools; has a Bible class for women once a week; makes a specialty of teaching English to the children of Christians which is highly prized by both children and parents; teaches the organ to several Christian young women; and makes our home a social center to a degree that has never been possible before.

PART 3. PERSONAL.

Of my personal work there is no need of saying much. Besides visiting twice both sections of this field, I spoke four times in Tokyo and gave many lectures in schools and before educational societies. These with sermons amount to about 125 addresses during the year. I published only one tract in Japanese, and that was on Education in the United States, pp. 26. It appeared first
in a daily here, and was reproduced in a Tokyo educational magazine. The tract has Commissioner W. T. Harris' likeness on the cover, for which he sent me thanks but wondered what I had said about him.

A former tract on The Japanese Family is now being reprinted in a daily paper in Fukushima. Two lectures, on The Attitude of Teachers toward Foreign Countries, and The Earth And Man, were fully reported in the dailies.

LANTERN WORK.

A friend near Boston kindly sent me a lantern, which Professor Wright pronounced the best oil lantern he had ever seen. I have taken it all through this field, and it has aided in giving the message of Glad Tidings to many hundreds of new hearers in a dozen new places as well as in all the old places. It is also a splendid help in educational lines and wins me a hearing in places where no one would pay any attention to the an-
nouncement of a Christian lecture.

SOCIAL LIFE.

Sendai has the reputation of being the city of the empire in which the relations of Japanese and foreigners are at their best. Since the operation of equal treaties, leading Japanese have taken the initiative in getting up joint social gatherings in which men and women freely take part. At these sociables, with no pressure at all from our side, sake and dancing woman are excluded. These gatherings have opened up social calls, so that dinners at the houses of the missionaries, with the highest officials of the Province and leading citizens with their wives, are not uncommon. As our children are all in Massachusetts, Mrs. DeForest now has time for these social duties, and thus our intercourse with the people is greatly widened.

ENGLISH TEACHERS.

In June a convention of all the teachers
in northern Japan was held in this city. We took this opportunity to invite the ten principals of the Middle Schools to dinner. This is one reason why two requests have recently come to me to aid them in securing teachers from the States. I pass these requests on to Mr. Fisher, of the Y. M. C. A. of Tokyo, who is doing a valuable work in this line, securing Christian graduates at small salaries for short contracts here in Japan. We want our English language taught as widely as possible in this progressive nation, and Christian teachers can teach more than English by their lives and influence.

It is worth noting here that of 398 foreign teachers engaged in the public and private schools of Japan, 158 are from the United States and 120 are from England, thus giving the teachers of English the great majority of 278.

I gladly add here my sincere thanks to the friends in the States whose timely gifts have enabled me to do no small part of the
year's work. They have generously supplimented the appropriations of the Board and given me courage to go ahead. And without the hearty cooperation of the pastors and evangelists our work would amount to very little.

J. H. DeForest,
Station Sect.

MISSIONARIES.
Rev. J. H. DeForest,
Mrs. J. H. DeForest,
Miss A. H. Bradshaw.