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WOMAN'S WORK FOR WOMAN.

A UNION ILLUSTRATED MAGAZINE

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

BY THE

WOMAN'S FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETIES

OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

VOLUME IX.

MISSION HOUSE, 53 FIFTH AVENUE,

NEW YORK.

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MISS CARRIE H. ROSE, formerly at Tokyo, wrote from Sapporo, Jan. 26 :

How quickly and easily one is transported to the ends of the earth in these modern times ! It seems hardly possible that one who so recently walked the crowded streets of New York, should now be in far away Sapporo. Miss Wight and I had a delightful voyage to Yokohama, via Honolulu. We found the southern route in winter all that could be desired. At Honolulu we were entertained right royally by Mr. and Mrs. Damon. You can imagine that we were interested in all we saw and heard of the Hawaiian Islands, and will not be surprised that we were charmed with their warmth and beauty ; nor that we thought they should be “ annexed ” by all means !

MISS SMITH ILL—WORK PROSPEROUS.

On my arrival in Sapporo last week, I found Miss Smith ill with influenza ; and as there is no foreign physician here, we were very anxious. However, a Japanese doctor is proving himself skillful, and our patient is improving under his care.

A glorious work has been done here, both in the church and school, and we have reason to be proud of our heroine who has toiled so long alone. Japanese helpers have been well trained and are becoming efficient and responsible ; consequently the work of the foreigner grows lighter, and he needs much wisdom to work side by side with his native helper, yet a little while.

In our school are about fifty pupils ; and the church numbers seventy members. Five of our students will be added to this number at the next Communion.

A SAPPORO SUNDAY.

Last Sabbath, when we ventured out in the deep, deep snow after a week of intensely cold and stormy weather, the out-door world was a picture of loveliness. The sun had come out bright and warm on newly-fallen snow, and every roof and branch and distant hill was glorified.

When we had reached the church and deposited our shoes on a shelf in the entry and passed into the audience room, we were greeted by a bright charcoal fire on a bed of ashes in a large square hole in the floor, over-hung by the cherry kettle, which sang a promise of tea in the near future. Having deposited ourselves on the mats, with feet tucked neatly away, we found that we were in the midst of a large and lively Sunday-school ; when we say large and lively we do not count the babies, for, tied to the back under the *haori*, with only a small head protruding, baby is one with his nurse. After vigorous singing and Bible study for an hour, Sunday-school evolved into the church audience, the minister appeared in the pulpit, sermon began, and, but for his environment, his aching feet, bad ventilation, and the strange tongue of the speaker, one might fancy himself in a softly cushioned church in America. The Board and Mission, through efforts of Miss Smith and Japanese Christians, have kindly granted a thousand dollars for a new church building in

Sapporo. A beautiful site has been selected, and it is expected that building will commence in the spring.

Last Sabbath afternoon I began teaching the Bible to a class of young men from the government college ; they came to make application and I was glad to comply with their request, as most of them are not Christians. Another petition has come in from some business men for an evening class in English ; Miss Smith and I are the only foreigners here now, and we are in great demand for English. Government has kindly granted this school its buildings for the last five years ; the lease expires next June, and, as the present governor is opposed to Christianity, we do not know exactly what will become of us.

Although some dark phases of mission life have recently presented themselves, on the whole, we are encouraged ; for when we realize what has been accomplished in this one locality, by a single worker, how could it be otherwise ?

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LETTERS FROM THE FRONT.

MISS ROSE, who has lately gone to be Miss Smith's colleague at Sapporo, wrote from HAKODATE, May 17 :

I came down to Hakodate (an open port) to apply for a *resident* passport to live at Sapporo. I did not wait for this when I first returned to Japan, but obtained a six months' traveler's passport from the United States Legation in Tokyo. A letter from the authorities this week tells me that the document is on its way, so I expect to return next week.

I was sorry to leave my work in Sapporo even for a few days, but it seemed best to know positively whether a *resident* passport could be obtained in these days of strict enforcement, before making further plans for our school. I think I wrote that we are now in government buildings, and the lease expires this summer, so it will be necessary for us to remove our school to another part of the city.

I feel a deep interest in the young men of my large Bible class, for some of them are wishing to become Christians and are honest, earnest seekers after truth. Thirteen persons united with our

Sapporo church this winter ; five of them from our school. The church people are all rejoicing over their prospective new building.

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JAPAN.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL PICNIC.

MISS ROSE having obtained a resident passport, returned to SAPPORO in time for close of school. She wrote July 2 :

How I wish you could take a peep into our school-room just at this moment. The floor is covered with children of all sizes, for this is the annual picnic of our Sapporo Sunday-schools. Miss Smith tells me that this gathering is four years old and has been a great help in building up the work for children here.

It is now four o'clock. Our guests arrived a one. The long afternoon is all too short for them, nor do they mind the languor of a summer day. They have been out of doors at play, and have sat a long time singing hymns and listening to addresses, and now has come the most solemn time of all, for the Japanese child is not merry when he takes his supper but gives himself, mind and body, to the work in hand. The inevitable rice is always taking on new forms, and on this occasion it appears in long rolls wrapped with sea-weed, and when cut into thin and shapely slices, looks not unlike jelly-cake. At a picnic in America one would hardly expect to find children drinking strong, clear tea with a relish ; but so has custom and association glorified this national beverage that, to the Japanese child, its charms far surpass those of lemonade. The feast was prepared by our Japanese teachers, who watch the happy effects of their efforts with great satisfaction. The children are not talking, for they believe in the old adage, Work when you work. To an American the silent solemnity which hovers about a Japanese feast will ever be an incongruity.

GRADUATES FROM GIRLS' SCHOOL.

Our school-room still retains its commencement decorations and general air of festivity, for the great event occurred on the twenty-

eighth, when two young ladies were graduated. The occasion was honored by the presence of the *elite* of Sapporo, whose expressions of appreciation were most elaborate. It means a good deal for a girl to graduate from a Christian school in Japan ; for besides the three languages with which she must be somewhat familiar, she has thought about, if not thoroughly digested, a new religion. If she accomplishes all that is expected of her during the eight years' course, she becomes quite interesting and well worth knowing.