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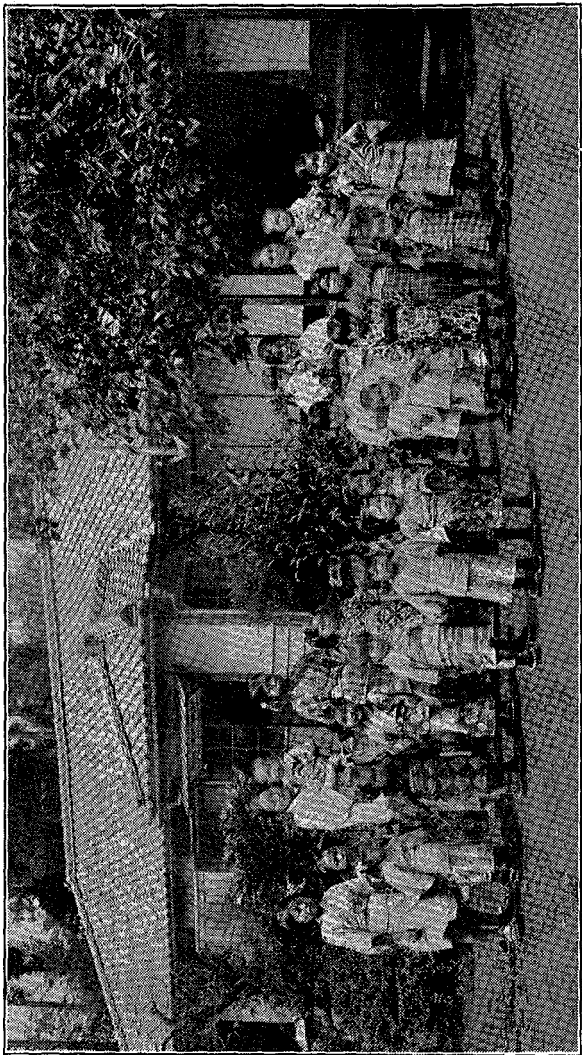
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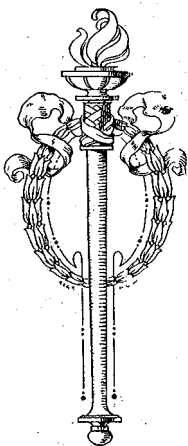
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“**A** thousand million heathen are marching from the cradle to the grave without God, without hope, without the Gospel. Is it that they do not want the peace and joy that come through knowing Him? Is it that they would not change their life of sorrow and degradation for the better life? No; we believe that the majority are really yearning for something different. The word of a heathen woman should stir us: she said—‘Tell your people how fast we are dying, and ask them if they cannot send the Gospel faster.’”



Some of the little "Lifted Ones" in the J.R.M. Home, Sendai, Japan.

“PULLED OUT OF
THE FIRE.”



“Some soul-stirring records of God’s
grace in Japan.”

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"Pulled out of the Fire."

CHAPTER I.

The Starting Point.

Our one and only aim and object in sending out this booklet is to magnify the matchless grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and to extol the efficacy of His precious Blood. In these days of fearful declension, there is a greater need than ever for Christian people to set forth in unmistakable language and with the clearest possible emphasis the greatness of the One Who died on Calvary as a "propitiation for the sins of the whole world." It gives us the greatest possible joy to record the fact that since this work commenced a few years ago, we have had ample opportunity to prove, at least to our own satisfaction, the genuineness and reality of the promises of God. Right from the outset we have had one passion, and that has been to bring the lost to Christ through the preaching of the old time Gospel and through the work of the Holy Spirit in applying that Gospel to their hearts and consciences.

Some people have thought that this work of rescuing the perishing was—to some extent at least—a waste of time. (Their idea was that it was more social than spiritual). We ourselves have never taken time to discuss terms nor to make any attempt to separate the work of God into different compartments. We are out first and last to get at the people's souls, and to see that they are brought into contact with the cleansing and life-giving efficacy of Christ's atoning work.

Rescue work is not by any means a kind of patch-up business, neither is it a work for the protection of those who have been in danger. We do not provide a rendezvous for lazy women ; neither do we at any time seek to give those who come to us a " Western education," and we do not intend to either, until we get a revelation from heaven that there is no more Gospel for us to preach and to teach.

So far we have never thought of entertaining our rescued ones with any of the so-called worldly entertainments so prevalent in some quarters, and which are supposed to inspire and uplift poor heathen sinners. No ! we have no concerts, and not once in twelve months do we have anything from Harry Lauder, or from any other Music Hall " Star Turn," on the gramophone or any other instrument. We never have any parties either, apart from the ones we call Prayer meetings. What a dull and insipid lot we must be ? ? I do hope that none of those who read this little book will for a moment think that we are a long-faced and lugubrious group ; we are about a thousand times removed from that kind of thing, believe me ! While we do not profess to be musical, I am bound to say that we have on the premises here some old ex-sinners with voices as cracked as old pots and as husky as old crows and they will sing some of the glory songs we have taught them as sweetly and as God-glorifyingly as anybody we have ever heard in the churches at home. I admit that sometimes the whole thing sounds very unmusical, but it just depends upon what we call music. We all agree that music has a soul as well as a sound ; in our work we get the soul oftener than the sound. Very often we start a hymn in one key and finish in another, and during the time the hymn was being sung the organist was obliged to move into more than one key ; we have any amount of freedom in the musical world here.

I say again, it is not altogether a question of sound, it is a question of soul ; the " pulled-out-of-the-fire " cases we have here and about which this book deals, can sing ; it would do you a world of good to hear them ; they used to sigh and moan in the old life, but since coming here and

having met the Lord of Life Who alone satisfies the longing soul, they do not want sin any more ; they want Him. Our family here would look aghast if we suggested a worldly show ; they would conclude at once that something had gone wrong with us if the very thought of such a thing were mooted. We are profoundly glad to say that by God's grace we have the things provided for us by God from the 1st January until the 31st of December, and it matters very little whether the weather is good or bad during that time ; we love the Bible—the whole Bible—we also love to talk to God after He has spoken to us through His dear Word ; we also love soul-winning work among the young as well as the old. By the help of God we go in a great deal, too, for the distribution of God's Word on the street and from house to house.

Having said all that, I am sure the reader will see that we have not time for anything less important than these splendid and pleasure giving activities.

We find that God's way is always best, and in that way there is boundless blessing for one's own soul ; and through it blessing flows to other souls. The rescue work is God's own dear work, and He has blessed it, He is blessing it, and if we do not get into the way and hinder Him, He will continue to bless it.

Much of what appears in this book has appeared in the pages of the " Friend of Japan " ; but we feel sure our many friends will be glad to have these soul-stirring records of God's wonderful grace in more permanent form. The prayers of all God's people are earnestly solicited for His richest blessing on this little booklet. To His Name be all the praise and all the glory !

The unworthy writer of this booklet wishes every reader to know that—after having experienced grace, goodness and glory in abundant measure from the heart of God through the Work of Christ on the Cross and through the gracious work of the Holy Spirit for more than twenty-three years—that he is ten thousand times glad that he is alive and enjoying salvation to the utmost every moment of his life. He would like everybody to know that although

he has travelled far he has never found anybody so lovely and so loving and lovable as the Lord Jesus ; he has met some of the choicest of God's dear nobility in all parts of the earth and he values their ennobling friendship more than he has ever been able to tell them, but when he has said all that it still remains that His Lord stands alone in all His peerless, stainless, flawless, transcendently glorious and exquisitely perfect beauty.

It has been his sheer delight all the time—despite men and devils—to serve Christ and make known His magnificent Gospel ; it has never been a “ trial ” to serve this extraordinary Master Who is so kind and generous at all times ; it has also been the pleasure of pleasures to be identified with the Man of Sorrows in seeking to bind up wounds, lift burdens, and tell the poor and the needy about their great Friend.

There is nothing in the world like real wholehearted, out and out service for God and lost men ; it is just fine to tell somebody else about your discoveries and your delights, and in such a bright and breezy way that they feel at once that they will die soon if they do not get what you have and so obviously enjoy.

In Japan at the present time we are being used to scatter a little sunshine ; cheer a few hearts ; lead a few black and needy sinners to the “ Fountain filled with Blood.” We shall not for a moment discuss the disadvantages ; to tell the truth we have sometimes to go out and hunt for them if we want to find them ; this is not true of the advantages ; they are with us in perpetuity. God our Father is attending to us and our needs as we keep bright and busy in His business ; we haven't a bit of worry in stock at the moment ; and more than that we do not want any ; it doesn't sell well anyway and why should we stock it ; if there were fewer people stocking it things might be different ; we dare not display it in Japan ; there is no demand for it.

When you have read this booklet will you kindly pass it on to your friends please ; thank you so much.

CHAPTER II.

Two Things He Knew.

On that bright, glorious and never to be forgotten resurrection morning when our Lord walked out of that sepulchre in all His majesty and kingly dignity, there were two things He knew without question. First of all, He knew He had won ; and secondly, He knew He was going to have a wonderful future. There were many other things He knew that day, but these two were certainly very real to Him as He said good-bye to the grave.

He had won, and with such a margin too ; and He had won in an entirely new way. Never before had He been on a Cross bearing the world's sin ; never before had He been forsaken by the Father ; never before had He known the awfulness of dying in darkness ; never before had He been taken down from a Cross dead and laid in another's tomb ; never before had He met death and all the hideous powers of hell and darkness, but despite all that took place during the thirty odd years He lived among men that was entirely new to Him in experience as the Saviour of the world. He marvellously and indisputably won. He never left a battle-field at any time in defeat ; He was the victor ; and never more so than when He left the tomb. That was the crowning triumph of all ; He had won the victory for man and He knew it. The Creator had gone down into the deepest depths ; had met the fiercest temptations ; had faced the wildest mobs ; had known something of the pangs of poverty ; had been misunderstood, maligned, driven out of His own world by those He came to bless and save, and yet He won. And as long as there is an eternity the people who have experienced the emancipating touch of that resurrection life in their dead souls will never forget to praise Him for His victory.

Tongue cannot tell nor pen describe what He won for lost humanity when He died and rose again. It was a

victory that can never be changed into anything else, and it was an abiding one. What rapture must have filled His heart as that thought possessed Him that day : He had won and under entirely new circumstances and surrounded by the most trying limitations. As Sin-Bearer ; Substitute, Sacrifice, Redeemer and Saviour He had won. In the Old Testament He had triumphed in other ways, but never as He did when He rose from the grave after His death on the Cross.

And further, He was perfectly sure that having won in the Will and Plan of the Father as Saviour, He was going to have a wonderful future ; not only the future so beautifully and strikingly portrayed in the Old Testament Scriptures when He shall sit on the throne of His father David, but a future which many of the saints of that time knew but little. And this marvellous future was to come to pass through the lives of those who would hear His call ; obey His voice, and receive His own Spirit into their lives.

He had provided and made it sure in the most unlikely manner, and the same thing was going to be true of the men and the women who would follow Him. They were to help Him to make the future glorious by a clear and definite acceptance on their part of what He had won for them, and also by going to tell others everywhere what He had done, Who He was, and what He was prepared to do if they were ready to receive Him. The wonderful future so vivid to Him on the resurrection morning could not be fully realized and consummated without the co-operation of others whose place He had taken on the Cross and for whom He had died and had risen again. The thought is humbling indeed when we think of His choice of co-operators ; He had won the victory but could not be satisfied until He had shared it with the victims ; His future was to be their future and He was to share everything with them. Oh, ever blessed and all glorious Redeemer, we adore Thee for setting thy love upon us and for calling us out of darkness and sin to share Thy victory and to participate with Thee in all the felicities and privileges of Thy glorious and wonderful future. Amen.

He was to have a splendid future unfolding the heart of the Father God through the Holy Spirit ; He was to have the future of all futures displaying the grace and tender love of the Father for lost sinners ; making



Young Japan hoists the flag.

known the Will of God to men ; revealing through His blessed Spirit the great and eternal plan of the Trinity for the Church which is His Body ; conveying to those who had accepted His grace the knowledge of what He was going to do for them in a still more wonderful future. He knew He was going to have a great and glorious time saving and sanctifying men and fitting them for His society and His service, here and in eternity. That part would be very pleasant to Him that morning seeing that He had come down from heaven specially for that purpose. We have always felt since the hour sal-

vation arrived as an experience that J sus Christ took a huge delight in saving and cleaning up sinners ; it seemed to give Him more real joy and satisfaction than anything else ; he was always at home in the company of those who were needing Him and knew it, and who were not afraid either to say so. And what a time He has had since the day the Holy Spirit arrived to take His place and to

carry on the work He had begun ; what myriads of sinners He has handled and saved ; what large numbers of believers He has cleansed and filled with the Holy Spirit ; what grace He has given His own people ; what enlightenment, what encouragement ; what victories He has given.

Think of the countless lives He has so possessed and so charmed that rather than grieve Him they would gladly die. And what about the many right down the ages who have left their all to follow Him into the dark places of the earth to mingle with the filth and the off-scouring of human society. And what shall I say more ; the time would fail to speak of that vast multitude to-day who love Him and through whose lives and testimonies the Man of Calvary is having the glorious future He was so sure about when He left the grave the victor over death and hell and devils.

And the story is being repeated all the time in almost every land under the sun ; no-one has ever wielded the influence He has done, and no-one can shew such a victorious record of achievements in the midst of the very circumstances which disqualify others.

Every morning when the sun rises the Saviour knows that someone somewhere that day will gladden His heart and will add to the glories which He knew were to be His when He had finished the work the Father had given Him to do. I have said the Jesus Christ was to have a wonderful future in and through the lives of those who would hear His voice, obey His call and receive His Spirit, and it is coming to pass again and again in the most unmistakable ways ; not only in one land but in almost every land where His glorious Gospel has been faithfully and fully proclaimed.

Every life that steps out with the experience of Calvary's victory is a testimony to the fact that someone outside that life has won that victory ; the deliverance from the power and pollution of sin is not the work of any human being, it is absolutely the work of the One Who died on the Cross. When the victim has become the victor through the victory of Christ, our Lord is having a great present, and the guarantee of a still more wonderful future.

CHAPTER III.

A Life Made Luminous by Love.

When our Lord commenced His earthly ministry He fearlessly and faithfully announced His programme. All great men who have set out to do great things in the world, either for themselves or for the good of others, have usually done this, but they have not always been able to carry the programme through to a successful issue. It was not so with our Heavenly Lord. He knew when He started His earthly work that He would succeed, whatever obstacles and difficulties might arise to hinder.

Let us look for a moment at the items on His programme as revealed in Luke 4, 18.

The first thing we observe is that He came "to preach the Gospel to the poor." This is salvation for the "bankrupt." The second item is that He was "sent to heal the broken-hearted." This is salvation for the "broken." The third item on the programme is "to preach deliverance to the captives." This is salvation for the "bound." The fourth item we see is "recovering of sight to the blind." This is salvation for the "blind." The fifth item is "to set at liberty the bruised." This is salvation for the "bruised." What a wonderful and all-inclusive programme ! It takes in every human being, and that being's condition and need.

Let us go over the ground again :—

1. Salvation for the bankrupt.
2. Salvation for the broken.
3. Salvation for the bound.
4. Salvation for the blind.
5. Salvation for the bruised.

What man ever announced such a mighty and all-comprehensive programme ? Oh ! wonderful Son of God, we

adore Thee for Thy eternal love and grace which compassed our sin and misery, and made everlasting and unfailing provision for our every need.

This programme has been most wonderfully carried out again and again in hearts and lives in our work here in Japan. We are not in any doubt whatever about the matchless power and ability of our glorious Lord and Master Jesus Christ. Here is the story of one who was down just about as far as any human being can go, and who through grace was lifted and liberated in the fullest sense, and also filled with the Spirit of God ; she has a wonderful testimony to the value and the victory of Christ's atoning work on the Cross. Miss Whiteman has very kindly supplied me with a few particulars regarding this woman.

The daughter of a Doctor, S . . . San was married at the age of 17 into a well-to-do family, and continued to live with her husband for over 20 years. After all that time in some inexplicable and mysterious way, this woman suddenly began to manifest signs of discontent and hysteria, which later led to her running away from her husband, family and home. What happened after she ran away we do not know, but she eventually repented and returned to her own home. Her mother took her back to her husband, but although she was most apologetic for having run away, the husband absolutely refused to have her in the house. He said that if she would do better and be contented he



When she came in.

would take her back into the home in three years' time.

She went back after three years had passed, only to find that during that time he had fallen in love with another and had brought her into the home. Her grief knew no bounds when she realized that what had been her home for 20 years would be that no longer. It is evident now that the hysteria had been brought on by her husband's showing a preference for other women.



After Christ arrived.

When this cast-off woman fully realized what had happened, and having no-one to turn to for help, and no knowledge of God, she handed herself over absolutely into the hands of sin and Satan. About this time she went to live with a younger sister whose husband was a priest. What happened in this home we must seek to conceal.

Some time later she gave birth to a son of which the priest was father. This led to very serious trouble in the sister's home, with the result that she had to leave there, utterly disowned and unwanted even by her own. Finding herself homeless and friendless she came to our home—a

place she would have despised a few years before. We opened the door to her and she crept in, a broken and dejected woman, glad to find a corner where she could weep in secret over her sorrow.

We wish this was all we had to say about this case. She had not been long here before we found it necessary to segregate her; she had contracted something which

made it impossible for her to have the fellowship of others. What a terrible case ! Truly the devil had wrought havoc in her body as well as in her soul. Believing that our God is the God of the impossible, we at once took her and her condition to Him in prayer, and asked Him to mercifully deliver her. We also sought in every way to look after her sin-stricken body. Not knowing God at this time she was very anxious to have all the medical attention possible, which, of course, did not mean a great deal to her.

As time went on and she heard the Word of God preached she began to seek God, and shortly afterwards made a profession of faith in Jesus Christ. For a time she would continue to be bright and then she would go under again. All the time this was going on she was receiving medical attention, and her case, instead of looking better, began to look hopeless. Her teeth began to rot in her mouth and she began to lose the flesh off her bones. All hope of life seemed to ooze out day by day. She told us one day when things were at their worst that she was going to die, but we told her that we did not believe a word of what she was saying ; we also told her that we had been looking to the Lord in faith to heal her, to save her through and through and to give her a full-salvation experience that would bring glory to His Name and also make her a bright witness for the Lord in this land among her needy sisters.

One day while she was sitting quietly in her little room and pondering over what she had heard about God's power to heal the body, she determined to cast herself absolutely on God and have nothing to do with doctors and medicine. It was a great step for this babe in Christ to take, but evidently it was of the Lord as results have amply proved.

Along with this revelation given her about the body she trusted God to baptize her with the Holy Ghost so that she might be healed in her heart as well as her body. She gave a bright testimony to both experiences being real in her soul and in her body.

Shortly after this took place we took her to the Hospital, to have a blood test taken. After the examination we were informed that the disease still remained. We felt at once

that some mistake had been made somewhere because another of our cases who had been there had returned with the knowledge that she had been healed. Several days later we took her again, and after another examination the doctors informed us that she was quite clear of all disease. What a wonderful God we have! When He is fully trusted He never fails and He never puts to shame those who put their trust in Him.

What a joy it was and still is to this precious soul to know that God has done such a complete work in her soul and body and that she is now free to mix with other people once more. Since the hour of her deliverance she has been a great help in the Home, and joyfully does all she can for Jesus Who has become her strength and her song. Just a few days ago she was baptized and in a very special way the Lord flooded her soul with heavenly joy; it would have done you good to have seen her that day.

This is just another illustration of what Jesus Christ can do for the most hopeless and helpless. We have made no effort in this brief record to describe the condition of this woman when she reached us. She came here sick in soul, diseased in body, dark in mind, friendless and homeless, with a poor little innocent baby in her arms. The Lord met her and dried her tears, lifted her loads, healed her sickness, saved her soul, set her free, dispelled her darkness, gave her light, took hell out and put heaven in. What a wonderful Saviour is Jesus our Lord! the half has never yet been told.

The other day in the Church when an opportunity came for those who had been delivered—and who were in no doubt about it—from sin and the devil this resurrected soul brightly testified to the wondrous power of God's grace in Christ to reach and rescue her from the deepest depths; it is hardly necessary for us to catalogue all her past sins but we were more than ever proud of our glorious Saviour when we learned from her lips that she had been under the thralldom of drink and tobacco and loved them both for what she could get out of them, which according to her own words was not much. Her words were enhanced

by the brightness of her lighted countenance ; we often wonder why some people are always in doubt about the transforming efficacy of salvation in human hearts and lives ; some of us here could not be doubters for a salary ; we have perennial evidences of the reality of the power of Christ's atonement and this prohibits our ever joining the ranks of the doubters and the grumblers.

After listening to all that was said we had another revelation—and not at all necessary—that family connections and influence along with a first class education are no safeguard in life and do not keep sin and Satan at bay. When will men and women learn that only Jesus Christ holds the remedy for sin and its evil effects in time and eternity, and also has in Himself the only satisfactory solution of every problem created by sin.

Another thing must be emphasized here before we pass on and it is this, what the Lord undertakes to rescue and regenerate He promises to keep ; temptations come ; difficulties arise which almost crush ; misunderstandings are created which very often bring their contribution of sorrow and pain ; weakness is felt ; opposition is encountered, and the enemy behind it all is working incessantly for the overthrow of the trusting souls, but through it all He keeps. Yes, let us say it without a trace of fear, He keeps and keeps well. The one about whose life we have given the above testimony says gladly to all this, " Amen," and it finds an echo in every redeemed heart in two worlds. Hallelujah.



CHAPTER IV.

“Is not this a Brand Plucked.”

“Who is like unto the Lord our God, Who dwelleth on high, Who humbleth Himself to behold the things that are in heaven, and in the earth! He raiseth up the poor out of the dust, and lifteth the needy out of the dunghill.”
Psalm 113. 5-7.

This is the joyful experience of the one about whom this chapter will deal. She is another of the trophies of grace we have seen in our work here since it commenced. Eternity alone will disclose to the great concourse of angels and redeemed saints what Jesus Christ has done in human hearts and lives that were utterly bound and broken, and almost damned by sin and Satan.

This young woman's story was a very sad one indeed. In the first place she arrived in this world under most wretched and distressing conditions, and shortly after her birth she was sent into a very poor family to be taken care of. As she got older she was told by someone that she belonged to a rich man and this made her very discontented indeed, and also very troublesome. One can understand a young girl adopting this attitude when she is utterly dissatisfied with her environment. It would appear that as a result of the trouble she created, her guardians felt it necessary to send her away.

This time she went to live with an aunt, but she had not been long with her before the old trouble broke out again. She was evidently keen about getting to know who this rich man could be, and if possible through him arrange for getting away from her difficult circumstances. The real reason for all this trouble was that the devil had sowed seeds of rebellion in her young heart, and as she

dwelt daily upon what she ought to be enjoying of this world's goods had she been given her rightful place by her father, she found it very trying and difficult to keep still.

Having the root of the trouble in her heart, her change of circumstances with her aunt afforded no relief whatever, and to get rid of her she was sent out as a nurse maid. This was only another step which hastened her to her ruin. From that time on until she was received into our Rescue Home she was held captive by the devil in every shape and form. Several attempts were made by some of God's children to help her to something higher and better, but they all seemed futile. She drank to the full from the cup of this world's pleasures until finally she became a wreck. It is tragic to record that a life so bright and so full of promise as hers was should have been wrecked so early; but this is just what happens again and again where Christ is unknown and where there are no uplifting and helpful influences. Had she been led to the Saviour in her early childhood, things undoubtedly would have been entirely different. Sin is a cruel taskmaster, and is not concerned for a moment whether the victim is young or old; it's business first and last is to deceive and afterwards destroy.

She came to us about four years ago, and during this time it was a great privilege to be allowed to minister the things of God to this sin-laden soul. It was not an easy



As she was:

task for us when we took her in hand. Of course, we did not know at that time what it was going to mean. For four years we had to pray very patiently and plod very perseveringly in our earnest endeavours to win her. Although at times it looked as if she might never come to Christ, we had firm faith in God that this one for whom Christ



As she is.

died would eventually get to know something of the glorious privileges awaiting her in Christ and also something of the true riches which fade not away. Better still than this, that she might know the true Father's love and come to occupy a place in the family of the redeemed through faith in the Lord Jesus. There were nights when we were on our knees from 7 p.m. until 5 a.m. the following morning wrestling in prayer for this child. At times she was so demon-possessed that she would foam at the mouth and also lose control of herself. It has been a sight to see her under the power of the evil one. Once or twice she had to be tied down and segregated in a quiet place so that she might become quiet and normal. At such times she had absolutely no desire

whatever for God or anything good. Her whole being was under the sway of the devil and everything in her opposed and fought the truth that sets free. Despite the drawbacks we continued to hold on to God in faith for her, and one day in the mercy of God this precious soul was gloriously delivered and found peace for her troubled and dissatisfied heart.

Her nature from that moment was changed, and we knew it. The experience of calm which usually follows the storm became her possession, and she testified to it wherever she went.

Not only did she trust the Lord for regeneration and the forgiveness of sins—she went further, and claimed deliverance from indwelling sin and its defiling presence and power. Shortly after she was “born again,” God put the longing desire into her soul for purity of heart and holiness of life. There were times when she thought that she had yielded all and had received the fulness, but only to find that she had still something in reserve that had not been laid on the altar. As soon as she placed her all on the altar the fire of God fell and consumed the sacrifice ; and He gave her the witness in her heart that the work was done. If all the young converts in this land and other lands were told that it was God’s plan and purpose to fill them with the Holy Ghost as well as to regenerate them, there would be fewer backsliders and there would be many more stalwarts in the faith. The failure on the part of many of God’s servants to teach this truth concerning the fulness has resulted in many a weak and defeated young Christian going under.

As an outcome of her having received the fulness there is health and fulness of life and blessed harmony in her soul to-day. One look at her picture (taken some time after she was saved) will show that a distinct and definite work of grace has been done in her heart. Because of the great transformation which took place in her life and because of her consistent life and testimony since, we were able, some time ago, to place her with a Christian family as their maid. She had not been long in the home when we received a letter from her mistress in which she spoke very highly of the girl’s Christian character. May I quote part of her letter ; I think it will testify to the genuineness of what Christ has done in the girl. The lady writes :—“Thank you ever so much for sending S . . . San to us. She is indeed fine, and has endeared herself to the children already ; she has taken such an interest in them that they all love

her. She is a real help and comfort to us all. We trust that she will be a mighty witness for God in this place ; thank you again for sending her to us." A testimony such as this makes us feel more than ever that the work is worth while. We do not get crowds to our meetings, neither do we have any flourish of trumpets. It is a steady work and the results from it are very blessed indeed. Work that produces such changed characters is certainly of God, and we are profoundly grateful to Him for giving us the privilege of ministering His message to such poor, broken and cursed creatures.

When we have finished writing about this one, seeking to show what she was and what she now is through grace, what shall we say of the others in this land who to-day are in a similar plight and who do not know where to find the help they so badly need? Much more real, lasting good could be accomplished if there were more heroic men and women to stand in the gap and to stretch out a helping hand to those who are crushed with burdens too heavy to be borne.

As I sit and pen these words, burdened with a sense of the appalling need all round and the lamentable dearth of workers to meet the need, I am reminded of a passionate utterance uttered by my good friend and brother, the late E. A. Kilbourne, some years ago. When you have read what he said then, you will discover that he, too, was face to face with a need which was not being met, and simply because there were not enough workers on the spot to do the work. One's own soul responds to every word in the utterance. He prays :

"O God! What is the meaning of this black wing of indifference and neglect? What is the meaning of this seeming disregard for the perishing millions going down to Christless graves without the knowledge of Thy salvation? Why are so many of Thy children so blinded by the power of the devil that they cannot see beyond their own little "Jerusalem." O, we pray Thee, Heavenly Father, that Thou wilt so startle them by Thine electric touch, that they will be quickened in body, soul, and spirit ; and so clarified

in their vision that they can see across the seas, and get a glimpse of the multitudes tramping down to eternal despair, whom they must face at the judgment and answer why they withheld the Bread of Life from them. Put such awful burdens upon Thy children for the regions beyond, that they shall be constrained to go, give and pray as never before, that the thousands of open doors in these dark lands may be quickly entered ; that the eager hands outstretched to receive the Bread of Life may not go to the grave empty ; and that the strongholds of Satan may crumble and fall at the blast of the trumpets of those thrust forth to face the enemy in the uttermost parts of the earth. We ask all this for Thy glory alone, and in the Name of our all-conquering Captain, Jesus Christ. Amen."

It will be a great day for Japan and the Japanese when my good friend's strong and passionate prayer for the thrusting forth of workers to meet the appalling and insistent need, is answered. May that day soon come so that burdened hearts may be relieved, bound lives may be freed, and poor women and girls for whom Christ shed His precious blood may find eternal repose in His love and grace.



CHAPTER V.

A Calvary Product.

What God has done He can do again. How often we have seen Him do it too, when the circumstances and the conditions gave no hope ; had He been other than the Almighty God the situation would have remained unaltered and the need would have remained unmet. People and their different needs and moods are nothing to Him ; their environment is not in any way a detriment to the working out of His purpose in their life ; He can save people in all the walks of life.

N San came to us a little more than two years ago with her little baby girl in her arms. She did not belong to the same class as some of the others we have been dealing with in this booklet, but her heart was just as depraved and just as much in need of grace as the others. It is more than likely that we would not have seen her if she had been able to steer her barque successfully past the rocks ; the trouble with her was—like many more we have taken in hand—that she could not do the steering owing to the current being too swift for her.

The first wrong step was taken when she—at a very early age—ran away from home because of her love of the things of the world. Her youthful heart went after the tawdry stuff so much in evidence in and on those who are strangers to the satisfying salvation which Jesus Christ gives. (This is just as true in England as it is anywhere), and the only barrier to her having her whims gratified was the home. To some this is not a very great obstacle at any time, and it gives them little or no concern to get up and clear out so that they may have what their sinful hearts crave for ; the difficulty is not in getting away from the restraints,

it lies in the direction of the resources after they have reached the far country. Many a man has been deceived here ; he thought if he got away the rest would be easy ; it is not.

This young woman had to find out by bitter experience that there are more barriers than one to leap, and that on the other side of the barriers there are dangerous pitfalls and deadly snares : what a pity some people do not look before they leap ; it would save them from many a broken heart if they did.

She managed to get away all right and for some time everything seemed to favour her in her quest for the world ; after a time of looking round she decided that it would be wise on her part to do something and she entered a hospital as a probationer. (Some people cannot afford to do nothing all the time ; they have to be busy if they are going to live, and they know it too).

It was evident that she was the possessor of this knowledge by the way she tackled the nursing question ; first in one hospital and then in another ; altogether she was four years preparing for the nursing profession.

All this time her heart is as eager as ever for the world and she is looking forward to the day when she shall be free to have what she has waited for so long and so patiently ; but will it come her way ? Very often it never does ; something else comes along and switches the person on to another course altogether, and one that was never anticipated.

In Japan the young ladies do not always have the privilege of deciding who is to be their life partner ; somebody else does that who is supposed to know better how to choose ;



In the Night.

usually the experienced parents tackle the job because they have been through the mill and ought to know. There would be a tremendous rumpus in some quarters in the West if anybody—even father or mother—dared to choose for the daughter ; it is not so in Japan ; who knows what it may be in the near future ; the young ladies are beginning to give themselves a bit of a shake, and anything may happen to overthrow the kind offices of the Japanese fathers and mothers.



In the Light.

N. . . San has certainly shewn herself a pioneer and a reformer in this direction, because when she heard that her parents at home had arranged for a young man to wed her she refused point blank to have anything to do with him ; anybody who knows anything about Japanese customs knows that to act in this manner was a most terrible thing to do ; it was nothing less than lawlessness and the overthrow of all parental authority. Whatever it was, she held to her decision and would not move ; didn't she say that she wanted the world, and who knows whether a marriage will bring what she wants ; not all of them do by any means ; perhaps she knew that and that

was one reason why she was so adamant.

In the end the parents lost the battle and they had to content themselves with the thought that at least one young woman in Japan had refused to submit to the wishes of her parents in having for a husband a man she had never seen and about whom she knew nothing ; perhaps she was right.

It would appear that the husband question troubled her after this peremptory refusal on her part when her people offered to find her one after their choice ; because some

time afterwards she went and married a man whom she thought would help her to reach her desired goal. Marriage at times seems to be a way out of a difficulty here, just as it is elsewhere, and on this basis she was married. It would have been a good thing for this woman if she had demanded the man's autobiography before she became his wife ; she did not know anything about the first one, and it is just as certain that she knew as much about the second ; of course No. 2 was her own choice and nobody had anything to do with it.

The union did not last long ; it was arranged in a hurry and it was broken in a hurry with very bitter times ahead for the woman ; had she known all that was involved in that transaction that day we feel sure she would have died first. Shortly after the marriage—not more than a few months—she was left stranded without home and friends ; the man she called husband cleared out and left her with her little sick infant to look after. With nothing but a heavy heart she decided to return to the old home and ascertain if those whom she had defied would allow her to come back again.

It must have been very difficult to go back after all that had happened in her life from the time she ran away ; she did not have to wait long before she found out what the attitude of her people toward her was going to be ; as soon as they knew she had come they positively refused to have her inside the gate ; they even went so far as to send out one of her brothers to order her away, which thing he did in a very angry mood, at the same time letting her know that in future there would not be any room for her in the house.

With a breaking heart she left the old abode and retraced her steps in the direction of Sendai knowing nothing of what was likely to happen in her poor distracted life ; in the mercy of God someone told her about the Japan Rescue Mission's Home and she came and saw us and asked if we would take her and her little one in ; after hearing her pitiful story she was received and attended to in the Name of the Lord.

Shortly after she was admitted she heard the Good News of a Saviour's love, and one day, after accepting the provision He made on Calvary for her salvation, she was beautifully saved by grace ; she told us afterwards of how she had longed again and again for something real and satisfying but she had never been able to get it ; no-one had ever crossed her path who could tell her how to get rid of her burden and how she could find peace.

Her little child sickened and died a few months after she brought it in ; the mother also sickened in her body and after a few weeks she had to be isolated ; this was a very severe blow to this young soul in grace when she found what was the matter ; to many it might have proved too much for them, but not for this one.

Just about this time we received another poor creature who also was so sick that she had to be isolated, and no sooner did this soul see the plight of the new-comer than she began to try to win her for Christ by reading the Word of God to her ; it was a great sight to see the one sick woman trying to get the other sick one to the Lord Jesus ; this No. 2 sick one has been brightly saved since then and to-day is witnessing for the Lord.

When the writer of this brief sketch last saw her about two years ago her condition seemed hopeless and she was so unwell that it was not possible for her to walk more than a dozen yards ; and this suffering was the result of her brief union with the man she chose for a husband. All over this land there are broken hearted and broken bodied women as a result of the deadly licensed vice traffic ; and there are thousands of tiny ones who have received a terrible heritage from their licentious fathers which nothing on earth will remove. The situation is a very dark one indeed and no-one will ever know what it means to the large numbers of poor women who have not a word to say on their own behalf.

Much prayer was made by the little body of believers here to God for her deliverance, and she herself, although only about five months in grace, had the deepest con-

viction that she was going to be healed ; we are sometimes amazed at the genuineness and the simplicity of their trust in God not only for their souls but also for their bodies.

In answer to prayer the Lord in His great mercy wonderfully set her free from her deadly trouble ; after she had been touched, the Doctor who examined her at the beginning of her sickness was sent for and after examining her again pronounced her well and free to go back to her work. Here was a sick and dying woman beyond the reach of medical science healed instantaneously by the wonderful power of the Risen and Exalted Saviour. Shortly after that hour she went back to her duties and to mix with the other women and girls ; to-day she is back again in her home safe and well and witnessing for her Lord and Master. Another mighty trophy of grace and power ; sunken in sin ; broken-hearted and in despair ; homeless and friendless ; sick and ready to die, and our all glorious Lord steps in and sets her free from her soul darkness and bondage and also from her death and disease. What a Saviour ! Hallelujah.

The work that gets such poor mortals into touch with this great Deliverer is undoubtedly a boon to the weary and the needy in this dark land of Japan.



CHAPTER VI.

“Made Over Again.”

The utter futility of man's efforts to straighten out the tangle in the world has been amply demonstrated again and again. Some have had the thought in their minds that if the people could be educated sufficiently the chances of success would be very much greater, and more than likely the goal they sought would be reached. We have no desire to speak disparagingly of education, but we are bound to say that so far it has not been a barrier to those who had it from going down ; the success will no doubt arrive when we have found out how to “educate ” sin out of the hearts of men.

We are writing this in a land that has gone mad on education ; it also boasts of its civilization ; its extraordinary progress in the world during the past fifty years ; its influence in the realm of international politics ; its culture and its refinement. We do not for a moment dispute the fact that Japan has made progress ; neither do we wish to give the impression that the Japanese are not cultured and refined (some of them at least) ; a great deal of what is said is perfectly true, but when we have said that the fact still remains that these things have not by any means lifted men and women in their sin to the One Who alone can set them free ; we hold most tenaciously to the conviction that a man—no matter what his nationality may be—is not the man he ought to be and wants to be without the presence of Jesus Christ in his life. We do not believe for a moment that there is any real abiding soul satisfaction and rest from the burden of sin ; and that there is no eternal salvation apart from the Son of God as revealed to us in the New Testament.

More than once we have watched lives that to all intents and purposes had every possible chance to go straight, but it did not happen ; we are obliged to say again that what the world needs is not modern education, but New Testament regeneration by the Holy Spirit of God.

About two years ago there came to us one day one of the saddest human beings it has ever been our lot to receive into our Home here in Sendai ; her sadness, of course, was not due altogether to her own misdeeds ; it was the result of a combination working against her right from the days of her childhood. Things might have been different had there been that in her environment and early training which is so mighty in the moulding of the lives of young people in the West ; I mean the wonderful Gospel with its glorious influence and its uplifting power.

In her early years there was no such thing, and consequently there were happenings in the home which brought much pain and sorrow of heart ; one can almost predict what is going to happen in the lives of some when a certain influence is brought to bear upon them and a certain course is about to be pursued ; there is nothing in the world to hinder some people from going wrong when they have nothing in their environment nor in their own hearts to hold them up.

We give herewith a translation of the testimony this sad young woman gave after she had been with us for a few months and after "someone" had arrived in her poor dejected and burdened life.

She writes :— ' It gives me great joy to tell you something of what the blessed Lord Jesus has done for me and in me. I was brought up in a wealthy family in the country,



In sin.

and had all my heart could wish. At the age of seven years my mother ran away from the home with another man and left us to ourselves. There were four of us in the family for father to look after, and although up to this time he had never taken strong drink nor smoked tobacco, yet shortly after mother left us he began to indulge very heavily in both ; this made conditions at home very difficult for the rest of us. Every day brought its fresh difficulties and many lonely feelings.



In Christ.

Not long after this I was sent to a Sewing School in Sendai ; having received permission from my father after a great deal of persuasion.

I remained at the school for one year, and during that time I was shewn every kindness by my teacher and friends.

Some time later I became ill, and had to leave the school and return to my home again ; to go back there after the kind atmosphere of the school was a very great trial to me. By the time I returned my father had married another woman and this was an added burden to me. For some years I had to endure much as a result of the bad conditions existing at

home ; had my body been strong things no doubt would have been different, but as I was weak I just had to remain where I was and take what came along whether it was pleasant or painful.

When I became old enough to be married my father arranged a marriage for me with a man whom I had never seen and about whom I knew nothing ; I did not want to marry, but I was forced to go through with it against my will ; the marriage took place as arranged, but after living with the man for two weeks I ran away and left

him ; the way he treated me was terrible, I could not endure it. I also found out that he was already a married man and had a wife and five little children in another part of Japan ; what a relief it was to be free from such a bad character.

I went back home after leaving the man, but my father would not allow me to enter the house ; he told me it was very selfish of me to leave my husband, and the best thing for me to do was to go back to him, because if I did not there would not be any room in his house for me any more. As I had no desire to obey my father and return to the man, I was then and there cast off as a homeless wanderer.

Having nowhere to go in particular I returned to Sendai and some time later went to one of my aunts to see if she would take me in ; she received me, but while I was there I was not happy ; I felt again and again that death would be welcomed. While walking the streets at night everything was dark : I was young, but still there was no joy for me ; there was not a ray of light to guide me, and no-one to give a helping hand. As the days passed by I felt that death was preferable to life and many times I thought of ending my poor miserable life ; I felt there was nothing in life for me ; nobody wanted me but those who could use me for their own cruel purposes.

One day, however, while reading the local paper, I saw an account of a very sad case where four poor little motherless children had been taken in hand by some foreigners in a place called the Kyuaikwan (The Japan Rescue Mission Home) and looked after while the sick mother was being treated in the infirmary. I thought it must be very extraordinary that there are such kind people in Sendai who would attend to and care for little motherless children. After reading it again I wondered if the foreigners who had been so kind to little Japanese children would receive me if I went and saw them and told them my sad story. Still feeling that it would be better to commit suicide than live any longer, I made up my mind one day that I would go and see the people in the Kyuaikwan (The Japan Rescue Mission Home) and find out if they would have me ; I

went, and after telling them about my circumstances, they very kindly received me and at once made me feel very happy. I found that they were just as willing to take me as they were to take the little motherless children.

Up to this time I did not know anything about the truth of the Gospel, but after being three weeks in the Home I discovered that I was a lost sinner in the sight of God and in great need of Jesus Christ to save me from my sins ; by the help of God's Spirit I believed the truth and from Jesus Christ I received a full and free forgiveness along with a new heart. Since that day I have experienced great joy and peace in my soul, a joy the world knows nothing of ; my sadness and heaviness disappeared that day ; the desire to end my life has not come back since the Lord Jesus came into my heart ; the darkness has also gone.

Since the hour I was saved I have learned something about God from His Word ; I saw that He wanted me to be filled with His Spirit (Eph. 5-18) and I obeyed His command one day and He filled me that I might live for Him alone and for His glory. By His grace I am seeking every day to do His will and work for Him in every way possible."

This young woman has made most wonderful progress in the things of God ever since the hour she passed out of death into life ; the Lord gave her a beautiful humility that enabled her to do things here in the Home that many others—even in our advanced homelands—would have kicked at. We have watched her again and again as the Word of God was being preached lay hold of God in prayer for the souls of the lost present in the meeting. How many Christians at home pray all the time the preacher is holding forth the Word of Life ? How many of God's dear children anywhere carry with them a note-book and pencil to the House of God and when opportunity presents itself jot down what God reveals to them ? We have seen no more eager soul in any part of the world than this one for the Word of God ; when she prayed there was always a ring of reality about her prayers ; her work among the children here on the Sunday mornings was simply splendid. The

Lord certainly gave her a good supply of grace when He saved her soul ; she was sad, but He made her glad ; she was out, but He brought her in ; she was down, but He lifted her up ; she was contemplating suicide, but He gave her salvation ; she was homeless, but He gave her a home here and the promise of another in the glory. Her picture taken when she came into the Home will shew what sin did : the picture taken after she came to the Lord Jesus will shew what grace did : there is a world of difference in the appearance of the woman.

A few months ago she left us to teach in a school near her old home, where at the moment we have reason to believe she is bearing testimony to the Word of His Grace ; this is how the work and influence of the Gospel are spread abroad throughout this dark land ; new links are being added to the chain every day. What an unspeakably lovely Saviour is our adorable Lord !

It now appears that the enemy of souls has not taken kindly to this young woman's witness in the school where she is teaching ; he has raised up quite a lot of opposition on the part of her fellow teachers with the result that she has been requested to desist. This kind of thing is not unusual in this land any more than it is in so-called Christian lands ; the devil who from the beginning has hated the work of God hates it here and doesn't make any mistake about disclosing the fact.

To be stopped might look like defeat, but it is not. It will not be possible for either man or devil to bind up an influence ; and who has ever heard about the Word of God and the Spirit of God being bound ?

The enemy has been angry over the loss of this woman and he is doing everything possible to drag her back ; it is nice to be so far forward in God that there is no way back. In any case no one who loves the Lord of Life is under any obligation to go back, nor allow themselves to be dragged back. It is always forward and upward with the saint.

CHAPTER VII.

“Do Not Come Near Me.”

Here is another of the most desperate cases we have ever been called upon to handle for our Lord and Master. In all our Christian experience we have never seen any human being so far down and so helpless and hopeless ; we do not exaggerate when we affirm that had she fallen into the hands of others instead of ours her time on the earth would have been shortened ; we need not go into detail.

At an early age she was sold by her grand-parents and was sent into the slave quarters. Is it not terrible to think that we live in a day and age with all its boasted civilization and progress when a young girl can be taken away from her home and her friends and sold into the hands of rascals who have only one end in view, and who know exactly how this life is going to finish up if it is not rescued from their cruel grip.

The day of slavery is not by any means over, and those who have to do with work for the lost in Japan know that what we say is true.

After some time in the slave den, and after receiving all the indignities that wicked men could heap upon her she found herself in such a wretched condition that she was no longer fit for service. The next step is always clear to the keepers ; they do not waste any time whatever in deciding what to do with the poor victim they have helped to crush and ruin when the medical inspection discloses the fact that a certain individual is no longer considered a paying proposition ; they push her out as quickly as possible, and when she does go they have no more concern about her future than the dead have.

Let it be understood that no provision is made in any way for a woman who has to leave her slavery unfit for human society ; the hospitals are not open doors for those who cannot afford to pay their way ; and on the other hand, who cares to stand good for the medicines and the treatment a case of this kind will require ; no-one. This is exactly the position a poor wrecked victim finds herself in when she cannot gratify the inordinate desires of blackguards in the " depths of hell." It is awful to contemplate what the next step will be for the undesirable woman who has been cast out ; she has no-one in the world to whom she she can look for help in her hour of terrible need ; what will she do if there is not a Salvation Army Home or a Rescue Home of any kind in the city. Is it any wonder that thousands of women attempt suicide every year in this land !

The one about whom we write here would probably have gone the way of many more had she not been led in the mercy of God (unknowingly) to enter a restaurant in Sendai and ask for help. When the proprietor saw her (who, by the way, was a heathen man) he knew exactly where she had been and

also something of what she was like. To his credit we say that he took her in and allowed her to remain until he could look about for something for her.

How wonderfully our kind and loving God works for those who know Him not ; a few days before this girl arrived in that man's place a reporter belonging to one of the local papers called on us to get some facts about our work here in Sendai, which we gave him.

When the newspaper appeared with the report of our work this restaurant proprietor read it and seemed to be



Cursed.

deeply impressed ; the whole thing was certainly of God that day ; the man reading the report and the girl going into his shop. She had not been long in the place when the man suddenly remembered that he had read somewhere about a Home in Sendai for women and girls of her class ; yes, he had read about it, and he would go and find out exactly where it was and if the people in charge would take the sick and stranded girl. He came, and after hearing



Changed.

his story about the girl's plight we decided to admit her. She was brought to us bag and baggage, and what a sight ! Her belongings were as bad as she was ; really it is difficult to describe the situation as it presented itself to us that day, and for the life of us we cannot understand how this woman was allowed to serve so long in that dark den. The picture you see here was taken shortly after she arrived ; the cloth you see round her neck was a kind of covering cloth ; she used another one to cover her mouth ; her own hair, too, had all disappeared. She was absolutely down and in the most degraded condition ; the hair you see in the picture, No. 1, is not her own. Oh, that the women

of the homelands could see and understand something of the awful slavery their poor Japanese sisters are in, and the sufferings they have to endure when they are turned adrift in a hopeless and healthless condition without a friend in the whole world.

Our hearts did ache that day when we beheld this piece of wrecked humanity, at the same time we knew that we had a Saviour who could deal with her condition of heart and life and remake her. She was not many days in the Home when we discovered that she had never before heard

anything about the Love of God ; she had lived all her brief life in the midst of darkness and heathenism knowing nothing of the message of life ; truly a sad position to be in and through no fault of her own.

She had not been more than ten days in the Home when she expressed a desire to accept Christ as her Saviour, and this was not an easy thing for her to do ; she had the impression in her own mind that the Christ we said so much about and Who had done so much for us, would not have anything to do with such a disreputable creature as she was ; she knew she was a sinner, but she had not got to the place of realizing that the Saviour would only be too glad to receive her and save her. To confirm this, she said one day to the foreign teacher who was looking after her in her place of isolation ; "Teacher, do not come so near to me, I am so vile." That was how she felt about herself.

It was our great joy and privilege to tell her that our Lord Jesus would take her in if she would but look to Him in simple faith, and that He would meet her every need ; she very gladly believed the word spoken and in the kindness and love of God she was brightly and victoriously saved by His grace, and she knew it and still knows it. Hallelujah for ever.

Grace is a great transformer of human lives and it was not long before we could see that a work of God had been done in her ; the bible was eagerly sought after, and the lips began to offer praise and prayer.

What a wonderful time it will be when all the redeemed ones get together and each one begins to relate how the Lord delivered them from bondage and blight of sin ; it certainly will be gloriously illuminating and Christ exalting.

Two years have passed since this dear woman came to us in her need, and it is almost as long since she stepped into the "Ark" ; but not once during that time has this soul looked back, and neither has the Lord Who saved her failed to keep her ; she is bright and happy to-day in the tender love of Jesus her Lord.

When she came to us we dare not allow her to come to the meetings ; she had to be attended to alone in her room ; to-day she attends all the meetings and no one is afraid of her presence there ; at the moment there is not a trace of anything on her body, and when she came her condition could not be described. The hair on her head, as you see in the second picture, is her own ; all this has been done for her by the Lord of Life and Power. She is one of the biggest miracles of grace we have ever heard of or seen anywhere.

What a Saviour we have ; the darkest, the vilest, the blackest and most hopeless may be brought to Him at any time and in any place and never once does He fail ; let the devil and sin curse them He can save them and turn them out as if they had never seen sin ; let them be as vile as the vilest He can make them clean. Ten thousand thanks to Jesus ; the mighty to save, and the mighty to keep.

The God of heaven through His only begotten Son is displaying the triumphs of His grace here in Sendai all the time in saving deep dyed sinners and placing them in His service as a testimony to the value and the victory of Calvary. Who would not adore such a Saviour ! If the reader is not a saved soul will you not kneel down now and accept this Saviour as yours ? Everybody and everything fails here but our Lord ; doctors could not have handled this woman ; He alone handled her and divorced her from her old life and its terribly wicked ways. All glory to the Redeemer of men,

When you have reached this place please do not forget that there are others in a similar plight at this moment.

We are hearing all the time about Japan's huge army of slaves and if all the reports are true there must be at least something like 200,000 poor women and girls in the most cruel bondage at the present time, and we call it the " Land of the Rising Sun " ?? It may be somewhat difficult for people thousands of miles away to take in the size and the horribleness of this ghastly traffic in human flesh and blood ; we cannot call it by any other name ; it is slavery of the worst kind without a doubt and we

mean to do our utmost to bring it to an end.

It is not the most congenial task to be always exposing other people's sins ; it would be more polite to leave the whole thing alone, but that we dare not do seeing that God has charged us with the sacred task of making known the conditions, stating the need, and also pointing out the remedy. Despite all the talk that goes on and all the "splendidly written" articles which appear in certain loud-mouthed journals from time to time it must be affirmed here that conditions are if anything worse than they were. During the past few years the number of geisha has definitely increased ; it is also true that many of the other slaves not known as geisha are suffering more desperately than they have been doing ; it is quite a common thing for poor hard pressed and brutally treated women to run away from the dens almost naked ; we have seen them and we have handled them.

Apart from what goes on night after night in the gay and well furnished Quarters, one cannot be oblivious to the fact that disease is being passed on in a way that will later on bring its terrible toll of misery and probably in the end a suicide's grave. The Japan Rescue Mission has been the means in the hands of God of bringing "life and health and peace" to many of those who when their time was up in the Quarters were nothing more than human off-scouring, and not being desired because they had ceased to be a paying proposition were thrown out helpless and homeless. Thank God for the Sendai Rescue Home.



CHAPTER VIII.

Saved from a Suicide's Grave.

With an army of over 200,000 prostitutes, including something like 80,000 geisha, it follows that there must be a correspondingly large army of men and women to look after them. It was reported that in one of the Licensed Vice Quarters in Tokyo prior to the 1923 earthquake, where there were 2,000 slaves, there was also an army numbering 3,500 to attend to their wants night and day.

Some of them no doubt cooked the food, others kept the rooms clean, and others again were on the streets acting as touts for the trade.

In geishadom there are those who act as teachers and who teach them not only to dance and sing but also how to play the samisen ; they are not in demand unless they can do all three satisfactorily. Apart from the number employed in teaching the geisha and preparing them for a life of sin and shame, there are those who act as procurers and procuresses for the owners of geisha houses ; it is their business to travel about the country arranging for the buying of girls who are good enough looking and who are likely to make good spoil for the keepers. When the transaction is completed between the representatives of the slave quarters and the parents or guardians of the girls, arrangements are made for the victim to be taken to their new masters with all the show that paint and powder can produce. Everything is done that dress can do to make the "show" impressive ; and how little the poor victim knows of what awaits her in the new situation.

It often happens that mothers are engaged in this nefarious traffic as procuresses and we have known where they sold their own girls into the hands of slave traders ; it seems incredible, but it is nevertheless true.

Some might suggest poverty as a reason for a thing like this being done by a parent ; our own conviction is that in some cases it is true, but not in all. The love of money in some cases no doubt drives the parent to dispose of the child, and probably there are other reasons which might be given. Whatever may be said by way of excuse it is too late in the day for any one to justify the buying and selling of human beings to give pleasure to the uncontrolled passions of men. It is sad beyond words to think that any woman can be guilty of the crime of selling her sister or her daughter into the hands of those who are all the time out to wreck them, and they are not by any means blind



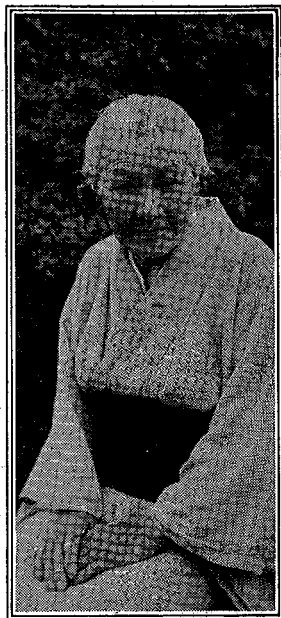
Teaching Young Geisha to Dance.

to that fact. Very few of the Japanese to-day are in the dark as to the deadliness of the licensed vice traffic and the awful results which come from it every year ; the Press is much more outspoken than it used to be, and hardly a week passes without one or other of the newspapers making some reference to the vileness and injustice of the traffic. We are glad that it is so ; it gives the Japanese themselves a better knowledge of what is going on, and also

creates in the best people a desire to have the business rooted out as quickly as possible. The subject of this brief sketch was for many years in the geisha business as a procuress and teacher of young geisha. To begin with she probably was one herself and having become an expert in the profession she was chosen to make more experts. To say the least, it must be a horribly degrading thing to be preparing people for their doom by teaching them how to use in a wrong way the gifts a kind and loving God has given them ; of course, the thought of God does not enter this realm, if there is a god at all it is the god of lust and pleasure ; this is the first and the last thing in this wretched business.

The number of bright young lives sacrificed on the altars of this god every year is appalling ; what does it matter to the keeper so long as the victim can rise to meet the demand and provide her cruel master with all the gold he craves for ; it matters nothing.

The life lived by this woman while she was the tool of the geisha proprietors was a very gay one indeed as long as it lasted ; she had the very best of company ? all the time ; plenty of music and excitement ; all the dress, paint and powder she required ; if she wanted cigarettes and strong drink she could have them ; money was also plentiful too ; the surroundings everywhere were charming ; the visitors were the last word in politeness ; on all sides of her there was everything to fascinate and to help her and



Transformed & Transfigured.

the victims she had bought down to destruction, but she did not know it. What a glamour there is about it all ; the devil has certainly done his best to cover up the hideous sores by a plentiful supply of electric lights ; dwarfed trees ; painted faces, beautiful kimonos, polished floors, charming pictures and lovely fountains. The life is certainly very vivacious but it does not last, and when the end comes it brings with it a terrible sting of remorse and despair.

This woman might have gone on for a much longer period helping poor girls down to destruction had she not been arrested and stopped by sickness ; when this did take place and she found that she could not pursue her course in the ways of evil, she had to leave the geisha quarters. It must have been an eye-opener to this woman who had given her time and her strength to the keepers to be bundled out when she became sick ; it is usually the case here as elsewhere ; when they are in want no man gives unto them.

She returned to her old home and her friends hoping that they might shew her more sympathy than her masters had done, but they like the ones she had served had no sympathy for her ; they received her but she soon discovered that she was undesirable. As the days passed by the treatment meted out to her by one and another became unbearable (How true the Word of God is ; " As ye mete it out so shall it be meted to you again.") She was just getting back what she had given to others. In a fit of desperation one day she made up her mind that the best thing for her to do was to commit suicide, and with this thought in her mind she procured a large knife and tried to cut her throat ; after doing her utmost to get out of this life she was found in an exhausted condition with several large gashes in her throat ; she was attended to and later recovered. The treatment in the home did not change in any way, and for the second time she decided that the only way out of it all was to have another try at committing suicide. Having failed to end her life by using a knife she decided that she would use a rope instead ; the rope was found and this poor distracted creature made another effort to get out of her

wretchedness and misery ; again she failed ; someone found her hanging and was in time to cut her down before the end came. What her thoughts were at that moment we do not know, neither can we imagine ; twice in a short period of time she has tried to get out of the world and on both occasions she has not succeeded. To those of us who know something of the ways of the Most High it is not difficult for us to see the reason why this woman failed and why the purposes of the devil were frustrated ; the Lord had some plan to carry out through this life and there was nothing on earth nor hell that could hinder ; that is the only explanation we can offer. Subsequent happenings in her life amply confirm our convictions along this line.

When she recovered from the effects of the second attempt her friends ? decided that they would have to get rid of her in another way ; it was no grief to them to know that she was miserable and had tried twice to end her life. It was arranged that they take her to Sendai and leave her at the station while they went to attend to some business, in this way they were sure they would be able to get rid of her, and they did. Late in the evening of that day she was found by the police and brought to us to be cared for ; can any of my readers picture what she was like when she came to us after living the life we have tried to describe here so inadequately, and after two attempts at self-destruction. To say she was miserable looking is a very poor way of describing her ; she was sad ; her face was pinched and drawn ; there was a scared look ; her eyes were dark and dull ; the marks of the knife were still to be seen on her neck ; she was weak physically, and spiritually she was utterly in the dark, without God and without hope in the world.

Such and a great deal more was the one time bright and merry geisha teacher when she came to us ; sin does make a garbage heap of some people's lives, and it did in this one.

She had not been long with us when she found peace through the finished work of Christ. She was led to the Lord Jesus through the efforts of a Japanese evangelist we had here about two years ago ; since that hour we have

never had any reason to doubt the work of God done in her that day ; the scared look departed ; the dulness and the darkness vanished from her eyes ; an entire change came over her countenance as well as her heart and life. How can it be otherwise when the Light of Life comes in ? This work among the drug fiends and the suicides would be a perfect farce if we did not have the Son of God on the premises ; what is there in the world to-day which can turn demons out of a life ; change the heart ; remove the very desire for sin ; banish the darkness ; clean up bodies and fill the soul with the joy of heaven, apart from the mighty and efficacious Blood of Christ ?

Anybody who cares to have a good look at the picture of this woman taken after she came to the Lord Jesus cannot but see that a very definite work of grace has been done in her heart ; one might travel far over the lands at home and not come into contact with a face quite so peaceful as this one and after such a terrible life of sin. Her face is a testimony to the fact that salvation does effect changes externally as well as internally ; the outside glow testifies to the genuineness of the inside work. Beauty parlours are not to be compared with the face polishing grace of God ; when He shines in He will also shine out.

We had not to wait long for evidence that this woman had received something from heaven ; at the time she was pulled out of the fire we had an old woman on our hands (a saint) who was very frail owing to her advancing years, and this old young convert with no more knowledge of the bible than a baby set to and did everything possible to comfort the sick one ; when the meetings were on and during the day and the night she would attend to her and do all she could to make her happy ; this is what we call the "real thing" if you like. There is a great deal more than preaching in this life ; this old soul shewed us once more that practising is also in order.

She is with us to-day, and is resting still in the promises of God ; one day through grace she will glorify the Name of the Redeemer Who kept her out of a suicide's hell ; we feel glad every time we see her ; words fail us in our efforts

to describe what the Lord is to some of these old wrecks after He has lifted them and brought them into the harbour of His love and grace.

After being with us and "in Christ" for almost three years the Lord Who had longed for her company in His eternal presence called her home a few days ago. For many months she had been very weak and at times suffering a great deal of pain and it was a glad and welcome relief when the Lord took her. She knew full well that she was nearing the end of the road and was not afraid to say so to those who went in to see her and to talk to her about the things of God. It was a pleasure to see the bright smile which covered the entire area of her old face and always above her pain, or as I should have said in spite of it.

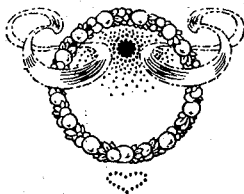
Salvation to this dear old saint was not something to endure but something to enjoy ; it was not a weight for her to carry but wings to carry her ; her weakness and pain thrown in.

A few days before she was "promoted" as our good Salvation Army friends say, she asked for a special favour. The poor old dear who had loved her Japanese bible and which had been such a friend to her could not bear the thought of going and leaving it so she very kindly requested the worker in charge to place it in her coffin beside her. If all the Lord's people were possessed with such a strong love for the Bible what a very great difference it would make to their own souls and also to those who so far have not heard that there is such a book in existence. This woman, although only two years in grace, has such a relish for the Word of God that before she passes she wants to take her Bible with her ; there is nothing childish about this ; it is simply the desire of a Bible lover to keep an old and valued friend for ever.

When the time came for her to leave us we placed her big Japanese Bible in her coffin ; the book will perish but the memory of that life lived for the Lord coupled with the strong desire to have her Bible buried with her will never be erased from the tablet of our hearts.

Could you have heard the testimony the worker in charge

of this woman gave after she had gone above your inmost soul would have been stirred to the utmost. It was simply to the effect that through all her trouble not once had she ever heard her complain ; through everything she had been restful and confident ; and she, up till a little more than two years ago, was a heathen, and a geisha producer. And yet there are those who are for ever asking " Do Missions pay." To such we say, " No, they don't pay ; they were not started to pay ; they were started with something else behind them and before them." We might as well ask " Does God pay " ? Or, in other words, " Does it pay to obey God " ? Christ is winning at any rate, and will always win.



CHAPTER IX.

"I am going to Heaven To-morrow."

There is something in Jesus Christ for everybody ; when God sent His Son into this world He made provision for every need of man to be met in Him. Right from the beginning God Almighty knew what kind of people His Son would have to meet and to deal with, but despite all the different kinds of sinners with their varied needs which would call for the help, He knew that the One He had sent would carry the day and meet the need.

We have often been amazed in this Rescue Work at the way the Lord does things, and the tender manner with which He handles certain types of sinners ; they are not all alike when they come in here ; some are very wild and would seek to give the impression that things must go their way if they go at all ; others again are so broken and crushed by sin and sickness that they prefer to be silent and suffer ; the latter class are usually the more docile and much easier to get to the Cross ; whatever be their state of heart and mind when they come in there is a Saviour on the ground Who deals with them all in love and tender pity. This world would be a tremendously dark place if Jesus Christ were to withdraw, and the poor hopeless mortals we are all the time after in this land would lose their best friend.

In this chapter we want to speak of one who was brought to us about two years ago, and one of the most heart-breaking cases we have ever taken in hand. We are grateful to Miss Butler for some particulars of this girl's history and also what took place after she came to us ; it is moving indeed to read the story. Miss Butler commences by quoting the chorus of that well-known hymn :

“ From sinking sand He lifted me,
With tender hand He lifted me ;
From shades of night to plains of light
Oh praise His Name He lifted me.”

The above lines adequately describe the glorious change wrought by the power of the precious Blood of Christ in one who was brought from the depths of sin and misery in to the experience of His glorious salvation. Oh, what a Saviour we have. He never despises any ; He gave His life that all who come unto Him may have life and life more abundant ; He, the precious Son of God came down in order that He might lift us up. “ He, though He was rich became poor that we through His poverty might become rich.”

We count people rich who have plenty of money and land, but He counts riches from another standpoint, and every one who will come His way may have His riches, in comparison with which earthly riches are as dross.

He had riches in abundance but He was willing to leave all so that poor sinners might share in the eternal riches which never corrupt and which thieves can never steal. Praise His holy Name.

Into the depths of woe and shame He went, and for such an one as we write about here. This poor girl was born and brought up in a place where she never heard anything about the Living God ; her early years were devoted to the worship of heathen idols. At the age of three years her mother passed away and she was handed over to some people who looked upon her as a possible means of gain for themselves ; at that very early age she was taken into the slave quarters, and although there was much going on which she did not take in, it was the first introduction to a life which later was to bring about her end ; of course, her guardians had not the slightest concern for her ; they had decided in their own evil hearts that this child must add to their income, and everything in her life and circumstances became subservient to that end.

Some time later she was sent to school, but after three years there she was taken away and pushed into a life

of sin ; this was the beginning and we shall see later what the end was like ; to get away from the clutches of those who wanted to sell her she saw that the only way out was to sell herself, which she did ; in that way she was entitled to the money from the sale instead of the guardians.

At the commencement of her contract she received about 30 Yen (£3) but not another penny did she get from her masters although she was in their hands for more than seven years ; what she got was pains, aches, tears, and all kinds of wicked rascals to entertain night after night ; this is hell and no mistake ! What a shame that a bright young girl is obliged to have any kind of blackguard who cares to call for her. During the time she was in slavery it appears that she passed through the hands of several proprietors of slave dens, each one contributing something toward her utter misery.

Eventually, as a result of the brutal treatment she had received she became sick and had to be sent to the hospital ; here she was patched up and later returned to her master for further service. This happened again and again in the life of this poor slave, until it became impossible for the " patchers " in the hospital to do any more patching, and when word was conveyed to her master that she was no longer a paying proposition, he bundled her out ; but before he did, he demanded that she pay her debt, a thing she could not do ; to get some little satisfaction he took possession of her best clothes and then ordered her to go.

A friend living near the place where she was turned adrift took her into her home and seeing her condition sent for a Doctor ; when he came and examined her, he just shook his head and said he could do nothing for her ; she was too far gone. The rascals in the slave den had kept her in bondage and had used her until she was perfectly useless ; the Doctor, however, while not able to help her did the next best thing, he wrote us and asked if we would be good enough to take her in and he would do all he could to help us, but he said he was afraid there was not the slightest hope of her recovery.

We decided to receive her and never shall we forget the

hour she arrived ; she was so weak she could not walk ; she had to be carried in on an old door they had managed to pick up in the back yard of the house where she had been staying. Poor thing, she never walked again until she walked in the presence of her Lord and Master in the City of Light and Love.

When man cast her off, the Saviour stooped down and picked her up ; He also gave us the honour of leading her into the light of His salvation.

To her everything seemed strange in her new surroundings ; loving hands were willing to do everything possible to relieve her poor tired and worn-out body. For a time after she was placed in bed she lay silent and still ; but "love never faileth," and as she began to realize that the people around her were friends she began to unfold her sad story, and it was a sad one indeed. All the possessions she had in the world was an old purse with a few copper coins in it and some filthy cigarette cards, which she handed over saying, "Please keep these for me."

Little by little when she was free to listen we told her the sweet story of the Saviour's love for sinners, and of His death on the Cross for her sins ; as she listened to the message the tears ran down her face, and looking up she said, "He love me ? Why I did not think that anybody loved me." Oh, do please tell me more about Him." We certainly did as opportunity presented itself ; but it was sometimes difficult for her to listen to what we had to tell her of Jesus and His love ; she had so much pain.

We were not permitted to keep her long with us, only sixteen short days before the Lord took her to be with Himself. Tomo San, one of our Christian girls very willingly looked after her during the day ; during the night several of us took our turn at attending to her, and many a night when all was quiet and still on the Compound we could hear prayer being offered to the Tender Saviour, also praise being given for mercies received by this poor and utterly broken mortal. It was a joy to us beyond expression to hear her ask the Lord Jesus to wash her in His precious

Blood and to make her heart clean from all sin ; and He did. Glory for ever to His dear Name.

The last night of her earthly career, just about the stroke of midnight, as two of us were sitting by her bed, she asked if we would bring Tomo San, and when this girl came into the room, the Lord in a most wonderful way flooded the poor sufferer's face with heavenly beauty and glory as she said "goodbye" to her faithful attendant. She also expressed a keen desire to see her people before she went, but this was impossible owing to the fact that they lived too far away, and we knew she would not live long enough for us to get word to them and bring them to Sendai ; this was a great disappointment to her ; if only she could have seen her own before she died so that she might have the joy of telling them about the Love of Jesus ; it was not to be, however.

A few short hours before her translation she said to those of us who were gathered around her bed, and in a very sweet voice full of assurance, "I am going to heaven tomorrow." Evidently she had received a communication from above about the time of her departure, because what she said to us turned out to be true ; she did go to heaven the following day ; truly a brand plucked from the burning.

Her life from the time she was three years old after losing her mother was full of sorrow ; from her earliest girlhood she had been in the hands of men who were out to get out of her all they could to satisfy their own devilish desires ; she knew nothing of home life and comforts ; there was no such thing as the tender care and watchfulness of a mother's love ; no kind friends anywhere to help and to guide ; no God, no Jesus Christ, no Holy Spirit, no Holy Bible, no Sunday School with its lovely children's hymns and its inspiring talks about the Saviour's love of the children ; no joy and no peace ; no glad assurance of something glorious and eternal in the life to come ; no, nothing but darkness and despair, sin and sorrow, disease and misery, pains and aches, and all the cruel treatment that sin soaked blackguards could delight to heap upon her. The position in which some of these Japanese girls and women

find themselves is perfectly appalling ; no tongue can tell nor pen dare describe their sufferings ; it has to be seen to be believed. We are supposed to live in a day of wonderful progress and enlightenment ; it may be that we are, but contact with Licensed Vice in Japan forces us to the conclusion that a great deal of our boasted enlightenment is the most horrible form of darkness, and our progress is in the wrong direction. Any kind of civilisation which permits the buying and the selling of innocent girls into the hands of gangs of deep-dyed villains for immoral purposes ought to be crushed and very speedily too. If some of the Japanese legislators do not have the courage to deal with this abominable traffic in flesh and blood, the judgment of Almighty God will surely fall upon them ; heaven may be silent for a long time, but this will not always be so ; we tremble for the nation and the people which treats with apathy the rights of her womanhood. What right has any man to take complete possession of another human being for a paltry sum of money and use her just as he pleases and when she is unfit for further service cast her out into the street, a kind of leper and totally unfit for human society. It is absolutely cruel and ought to be stopped : God in heaven help Japan to cut out this vile business root and branch. Amen.

We cannot and dare not attempt a description of this girl we have dealt with in this chapter ; to say that she was carried in ought to be enough. She was brought in on an "old door" and before she had been two weeks on the premises she passed through the "Open door," John 10-9, the "old door," the "only door," and when she left us she passed through the "Everlasting doors."

Her entrance to the Home gave us all pain ; her exit to the Land of pure delight gave us pleasure ; she went home to God in triumph. Some fine morning we shall see her again when the mists have rolled away, and we shall speak of the doings of our great and wonderful Lord. Before closing this brief record may I be permitted to ask the reader if he or she is doing everything possible to get the message of life to this class of helpless creatures. Surely

no woman can turn a deaf ear to the appeal we make for the women and girls of Japan ; they need your love and your prayers now.

Thousands of them are in the most cruel bondage at this moment and the only thing to set them free in every way is the Gospel of Christ preached in revival power by those who know God ; we shall be profoundly grateful for anything done by way of legislation, but when that has taken place, we shall still find it necessary to preach Christ as a Saviour from sin ; the one will deal to some extent with the outside, the other altogether with the inside.

Every man is free to state his own opinions if they are worth stating and if it is advisable ; we are not trying to state opinions when we affirm that what man can do will never alter what man is. It is worse than useless to expect failures and uncured sinners to do in others what they have never been able to do in themselves ; the experts must turn out the goods if they want us to accept their theories ; they must let us see the thing work. So far nothing emanating from man has been a soundly spiritual success from any angle, and if they lived down here to be as old as Enoch's son their best efforts would meet with the same fate.

Let no one think for a moment that we are not appreciative of what little benefit science and scientific research have brought to mankind ; we are very grateful indeed ; the fact remains that after we have all had our chance to clean up things and to bring in the Utopia things will continue to be as they have been ; the trouble is too troublesome and too gigantic as well as too old for man to tackle and to bring to an end.

We stand by workable propositions every day ; we have no time for cold reasoning ; speculation about the mysteries of life never comes into the programme ; from week to week and month to month we are as busy as we can be preaching the old-fashioned Gospel that saves the vilest as well as the most respectable. If other people have a craze for the metaphysical, the mystical, the psychological, the psychical and the political stuff, we are all out for the spiritual and the practical, and if we are badly deceived

we are more than glad to remain so ; we have no desire whatever for anything less than this.

If there is anything mightier than the emancipating power of Calvary by all means let us have it and soon ; the world needs it. The man with his heart set in eternity will not be apprehensive about anything likely to come along and supersede the salvation Christ purchased.

It would be the sheerest folly to tell our poor heart-broken, and body-wrecked friends when they come to us to cheer up because the Germans have just sent a big new Zeppelin over to the United States ; or that they hold on a little longer to their misery because there will be a change of Government soon and things will be different. Imagine, if you can, our pointing men to Geneva !! What in all the world does a poor sinner want to know about a new development in the realm of science when the devil and sin are gnawing at their vitals and they are full of sin and despair. We must not proceed further along this road ; it is a waste of time. Let us go in all the time for the faithful proclamation of the Gospel, and in every way possible pull souls out of the fire ; this is the thing that will tell in the end ; to sit like an iceberg all the time and do nothing for the salvation of others spells disaster.

What we have said for God will not count for so much as what we were and did for God ; the world is sick to death of " nice thoughts " ; what is needed now is strong and Christ-like action ; after all souls such as we have tried to describe here are not transformed by quoting texts, hand-clapping and shouting ; lots of people can go in for that kind of thing without very much trouble ; going down into the depths for the scum and the filth of human society is another matter. Difficult or otherwise, let us go after lost souls and bring them to Him, the Only Saviour of men.

Soul winning from beginning to end is a colossal spiritual luxury ; thank God.

CHAPTER X.

“ Apathy, or Action ? ”

It has often been said that people who are brought face to face with Jesus Christ can never be the same again ; to get into His presence and to hear His message constitute a call to action of some kind or another.

Doubtless this is true and the most of us have lived long enough to know it in experience. The question which arises now and seems to demand attention is just this and can be very briefly comprehended ; having read about what the Lord has done in a few broken and bruised lives, and having had a revelation that a great and pressing need which still exists in Japan, what part am I going to play toward getting some deliverance to the thousands who are still without that life-giving and life-sustaining message which has so completely revolutionized the lives of those about whom this booklet deals. Surely I must not expect my Saviour to be satisfied because I have read thus far and because I tell Him that I am now interested in the work of the Japan Rescue Mission.

One of our workers told me the other evening that a certain gentleman was deeply interested in our work. I asked her to what extent he was interested ; the answer she gave was not at all satisfactory. An interest that goes no further than twopence a quarter for a missionary magazine is not the kind of interest that Jesus Christ gave His poor followers on the Day of Pentecost ; and it is not the kind that even the devil himself would be satisfied with.

People often tell me in a most interesting manner that they are interested in “ my ” work, and it all sounds very interesting, but when it ends there it is cruel. Not very

many souls in the "sewers" here in Japan are going to be hauled out and washed clean by a few nice people at home expressing their interest; God Almighty wants something more drastic than that kind of thing. An interest in souls means spending and investing everything we can lay our hands upon for the good of the others in need; haven't we learned that the most prosperous business and the one that pays the highest dividends in time and eternity is the soul-winning business among the heathen?

It is strange how very slow we are to take the plunge in this direction and to go all lengths with God for the salvation of the lost. The Japan Rescue Mission is presented daily with an unparalleled opportunity to get men and women face to face with the claims of Christ and to get them to trust in His redeeming love. What you have read in this booklet is only a mere fraction of what could be done if those who have the Gospel stood by and helped; there are crowds of broken and cursed women and young girls all over Japan who are in desperate need of the help we can give.

At present we are most anxious to open a large Rescue Home in Osaka, where there are anything from 20,000 to 25,000 women in bondage to the god of lust; the reason why we cannot do so is because of the lack of funds; the misery and the degradation associated with vice in this city alone is altogether incredible. From time to time we have said something in the "Friend of Japan" (our quarterly magazine) about the poor sick captives in the Lock Hospital to whom our workers have given little gospels, and we have also tried to point out the wonderful possibilities in the situation. Our hands have been tied behind our backs again and again through lack of help and we have had to watch needy souls go without the blessing we were sent to Japan to pass to them.

Our tears have been many as we have seen the awful failure to provide the crushed and cursed with a place of refuge. Please remember that we must have houses for the women when they run away from their slavery or when they are thrown out of the dens unfit for further

service ; we cannot do rescue work at the street corner ; Homes we must have.

Many a night we have wondered what we were going to do with the souls who were looking to us for help ; some who have come to us we have lost because we did not have the necessary accommodation for them. Can you realize what this heart-breaking situation has meant to us when we have had to suffer the loss of precious souls for whom Jesus died and all because of the lack of money ; we knew there was plenty of it in the homelands and that many of God's stewards could easily have made it possible for the sad and the homeless to have a home and a place where they could find relief from the crushing burdens of sin and despair, but it did not come this way.

To read about the conditions is one thing but to see the refuse that comes from Licensed Vice is another ; I am making a plea for my poor unfortunate sisters in dark Japan and I want to ask every man and woman who reads this booklet to make it possible for my friends in the vile prison houses to have their liberty ; they ought to have it as much as my daughter or yours ; but why don't they ? Perhaps we know why.

I am not asking a farthing from anybody and I do not want to give the impression that this is a begging crusade ; the position in which one finds one's-self is just this, one has had a vision of this great need and one has heard the cries of the fallen and down-trodden women here in Japan ; along with that there has come to one the call from the Cross and the Throne to go after this very needy and fearfully neglected class, so whatever happens everything must be done that can be done to bring the slaves out of prison. I have said already that such poor captives are not going to be freed by one's expression of interest, neither are they going to be liberated by pious resolutions and subscribing to a missionary magazine ; the need of the hour is for men and women who have had the vision to roll up in their hundreds and to do everything in their power to make Jesus Christ King in the lives of the lost.

What you will do I do not know ; it is not my affair ;

by God's precious grace I have endeavoured to let you know something of the need among the women of Japan ; I have also made an attempt to let you know a little of what has happened in the hearts and lives of a few who came to us in the hour of their deep need ; the rest I leave with Him Who loves all and wants to save all.

We might mention here the names of other dark and neglected cities in Japan where there are no homes to which a poor captive may go when she escapes from her chains ; will you not kneel down now and ask the Lord to make it possible for us to open a chain of Rescue and Preventive Homes between the North and the South of Japan ; there is great need and there is plenty of room ; we shall not be stepping upon another's toes in this work, so very few are after these unfortunate women and that is one of the reasons so little is known about their sad plight. Hell is their portion every day they live and what they endure in it no tongue can tell. Surely we shall at least pray for them and beseech God in His great mercy to abolish the traffic and set them all at liberty ; even if that took place to-morrow there would still be a need for Rescue Homes ; at the present moment there are thousands of women whose bodies are in a bad way and if they were driven out of their present situation they could not do any serious work for a long time ; and there are many in Lock Hospitals who would require our help.

If you would like to have a share in pulling souls out of the fire in Japan perhaps you will drop us a line letting us know that the Lord has laid this great and glorious work upon your heart ; if we can give you any further information which would help you to intercede more intelligently and prevailingly we shall be most happy to do so ; we want to enrol every redeemed soul in this crusade for mighty prayer for the emancipation and the salvation of our Japanese sisters.

Will you join up to-day and promise the Lord that as He has shewn you the need you will spend some time each day in prayer for Japan.

Please be good enough to pray for the great city of Osaka and the urgent need of a Rescue Home there.

THE JAPAN RESCUE MISSION

is

Undenominational and Interdenominational,
with
Headquarters in Japan and Great Britain.

It also has Secretaries in America, Australia, and South Africa.

It is maintained on the FAITH principle. It guarantees no salaries to its workers, does not borrow, and does not go into debt.

It stands for the "Whole" Bible as the Word of God, and its aims are:

- 1—To preach Christ, crucified, risen, exalted, to the "unreached" in the Japanese Empire, as a present and perfect Saviour from all sin.
- 2—To lead believers into "the fulness of the blessing of the Gospel of Christ," or, in other words, to get them "Baptized with the Holy Ghost and Fire."
- 3—To rescue girls and women who have been led captive by the devil into the "Depths of Hell" (dens of vice).
- 4—To prevent little girls from being sold for immoral purposes.
- 5—To open Homes for the "friendless" and "homeless," the "sick" and the "sorrowful."
- 6—To open a "Preaching" and "Receiving" Place adjoining the Licensed Quarters in all the large cities and towns.
- 7—To trust the Lord entirely for the means to carry on His work.
- 8—To hasten the Coming of the Lord by carrying out the Commission.

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