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New Year Thoughts

Let us walk softly, friend:
 For strange paths lie before us, all untrod;
 The New Year, spotless from the hands of God,
 Is thine and mine, O friend.

Let us walk straightly, friend:
 Forget the crooked paths behind us now,
 Press on with steadier purpose on our brow,
 To better deeds, O friend!

Let us walk kindly, friend:
 We cannot tell how long this life shall last,
 How soon these precious years be overpast;
 Let Love walk with us, friend.

Let us walk quickly, friend:
 Work with our might while lasts our little stay,
 And help some halting comrade on the way;
 And may God guide us, friend!

—LILLIAN GRAY, in *Western Christian Advocate*.

Laying the Foundation-Stone of the New Strachan Hall

(Continued from page 13.)

of Mr. Saunby, who was to have read the accompanying service, the ceremony was omitted, but hymn sheets were passed around, and the company joined in singing the abbreviated story of the prodigal son to the tune "Imayo," so popular with our Japanese friends. Prayer by Mr. Nomura, one of our Japanese co-workers, was followed by a short address from Miss Jost.

Her voice rang out clearly and distinctly as she told about the women at home in Canada collecting the money for it and for the support of us missionaries that we may live here and teach especially the women and children about Christ, our Saviour, who loves and cares for all people. She told of the condition of women in Western lands before this Saviour was known, and of the change that has been wrought through Him, and urged His claims in Japan, where He can do for Japanese women what He has done and is doing for their Western sisters.

Mr. Watanabe, the able Japanese pastor of Kanazawa, spoke after this about foundations. It was an eloquent address, couched in simplest language that all might understand.

At the conclusion of this address Miss Hargrave gave each of the ninety workmen and work-women a box of cake (instead of the saké invariably served by the Japanese on similar occasions) and a copy of St. Mark's Gospel, together with a tract of Dr. Imbrie's, giving a summary of the tenets of Christianity.

A hymn and prayer, and the meeting broke up quietly, reverently; and as we dispersed we felt that the laying of the foundation of the new Strachan Hall and Herbie Bellamy Home had been made the occasion of the preaching of the Gospel to those work people in a most attractive and judicious manner.

Farewell to Miss Clara E. German, B.A.

A meeting of very great interest was held in Dundas Centre Church, London, in October, when formal farewell was taken of Miss Clara German, B.A., who sailed on the *Empress of Asia*, on November 5th, to engage in missionary work in Japan.

All hearts joined in wishing Miss German abundant success, while an undertone of sadness prevailed, that we should have to part with one who had so endeared herself to us, and had rendered such valuable assistance in so many departments of church work.

Gifts were presented by representatives from the Trustees, Sunday School, Woman's Missionary Society, the Young Ladies' Mission Circle and the Epworth League.

Miss German responded and told of the love of Christ that had so permeated her life and constrained her to carry the message to those other children of our Father, in Japan.

The pastor, Rev. A. J. Johnston, D.D., assured Miss German that our prayers would follow her, and a great joy would enter her soul as she responded to God's call and engaged in missionary work in His Name.

A. T.

Coqualeetza Indian Institute

This institution is situated in the beautiful valley of Chilliwack, B.C., and is a spacious home provided for Indian boys and girls, of which Rev. R. H. Cairns is the principal. It receives its name from a river which once ran through the land on which the institute now stands. To this river the Indians of long ago would take their blankets, and wash them by swinging them back and forth in the water. Coqualeetza means a place of cleansing, and the institute is well named, since cleanliness is one of its chief characteristics.

The children so comfortably housed here are gathered in from various homes around the coast. Many of the children are orphans and have no idea of home training previous to their life at Coqualeetza. When they reach the Institute they are treated very kindly by the teachers and old pupils and soon become very much at home. One girl, after being in the school for a few weeks, wrote to her mother in this way: "Please do not worry over me, I know no trouble here."

The training is a broad one, and may well be envied by many white children. The girls outside the ordinary school course of studies are taught laundry work, cooking, sewing and music. The boys are divided into three groups. The larger boys are taught to do farming and carpentering. The medium boys do the work around the house, and the little boys do the fetching and carrying.

When we consider the homes from which some of these children have been taken, we cannot but thank God for the earnest Christians who first became interested in the uplift of the original settlers of our land. A more needy work has never been undertaken. Many who are enthusiasts about foreign mission work know comparatively nothing about the work that is being

done at their own door. We are convinced that there is too little interest being taken in the welfare of these poor unfortunates by the active workers of our own church. It would be an incentive to those of us who labor here to know that we were being remembered in the daily prayers of God's children.

As a band of Christian workers we are striving to instil into the minds of these children their duty to God, and to raise them to a higher ideal of living, and we are assured that our work among them is not without its results. The life which they lead here under Christian influences and firm discipline must have a lasting influence. Those who go out from the institute and make homes of their own make better house-keepers, and have a more sane idea of raising a family. Our greatest anxiety is for the children who have to go out unprotected and make their own way in the world. We have a bright girl now who has recently left our school; her ambition is to be a nurse, but she is too young to take the training this year. This girl is very attractive, and having spent so many years here is ignorant of the ways of the world. She shows great taste for painting, music and fancy work, and is an all-round capable girl. She would make a splendid companion for some Christian lady who wanted to do some missionary work at home.

We have another intelligent girl attending high school at Chilliwack who is anxious to become a public school teacher.

Our boys, when they go out from the school, are quite capable of making their own way in the world. During the past year six of our boys have finished their term here. Early in the spring special services were held, in which several of our boys and girls professed faith in God. We are anxious for the mental and physical development of these children, but to see them develop spiritually brings our greatest joy, and sweetens our labor among them, and we give God all the glory, and mean, by His help, to "labor on, spend and be spent; it is the way the Master went; should not the servant tread it still?"

MINNIE E. HUNTER, *Deaconess.*

[This Institution receives a per capita grant from the Government, but any deficit arising is met equally by the General Society and the Woman's Board.—Ed.]

En Route Up the Yangtse River

Under date of Hankow, China, November 7th, Miss Uberta Steele writes to Mrs. Willmott:—

We are met to-night in the saloon of the river steamer "Ngankin," having music on both piano and guitar. After a pleasant journey we reached Hankow last night, and have to wait awhile for the next steamer. The steamers on the river between Hankow and Ichang are very uncertain. The one on which we are to leave is overdue, and they cannot tell us just when she is coming in, so we are waiting until she does come. We have to get off this boat to-morrow, so we are hoping to be able to move on to the new boat when we leave this.

To-morrow we plan to cross the river to the city of Wu-Chang and see the mission schools and hospitals there.

The country is still troubled, and it seems to us that some people are trying hard to make our new girls nervous. The girls are strong and sensible, and we are not fearing that they are to be easily frightened. Poor old China! Her troubles are not over yet. Pray that strong Christian leaders may be raised up who shall control and govern the people so that justice and righteousness may flourish in the place of selfishness, greed and uncertainty. And pray that the Lord's

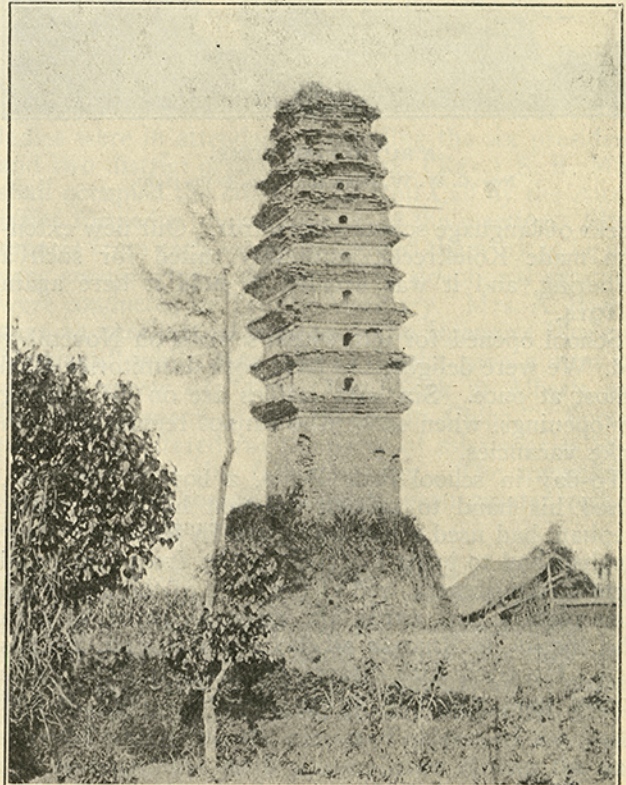
work be not hindered by another time of disturbance and bloodshed.

Little Katherine Hockin is the pet of all the party, and very proud she is of her new life membership pin. She has been very well indeed, as have all of us.

We had a delightful day in Tokyo, and did so enjoy visiting the girls' school there. The Japanese girls are very lovable, but not more so than are the Chinese girls, so I am not sorry to be going back to school work in China. And I do not want to be sent down to Shanghai again inside of seven years.

We are glad to know that we have your prayers, and feel satisfied that God has a work for us, since He permitted us to return.

A recent letter from Miss Srigley has brought me great joy, as she has told of the help given her in her



A PAGODA JUST BACK OF THE MISSION HOUSE, KIATING, CHINA.

work by a seventeen-year-old girl who was once a day pupil in the school. As a child I did not think she was at all interested in the Gospel. She was inattentive and careless in her Bible lessons. When about twelve years old she ceased to come to school, and I saw her only once or twice afterwards. Now she has declared herself a follower of Jesus, and has been helping Miss Srigley. We sow the seed, but God alone knows what the harvest shall be.

We were privileged to visit the McTyere School in Shanghai, and the teachers there told us stories of how their girls in their own homes were trying to follow Jesus.

Hearing these things we can, like Paul, "thank God and take courage," "for as much as we know that our labour is not in vain in the Lord." I pass this on to you, that you, too, may rejoice. You have not the opportunity that we have to hear these things, and yet they belong to you as much as to us.

Good habits are not made on birthdays nor Christian character at the New Year. The workshop of character is every-day life. The uneventful and commonplace hour is where the battle is lost or won.—*Maltbie D. Babcock.*