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In one year he had done a mighty work in building up New Japan, despite threatened assassination; but his end was near. On the 15th of February, 1869, on his return from the palace, he was set upon by six men, and shot, beheaded, outraged, his headless trunk lay in the streets of Kioto. The only reason given by his assassins and by Japanese historians for the dastardly deed is, that Yokoi was suspected of harboring "evil opinions," by which was then meant Christianity. Thus died a patriot, and we think we may say, (not a church-member, but) a Christian. He died for Japan, for freedom, for man, for Christ.
"The noblest place for man to die,
Is where he dies for man."
The blood of this martyr was the seed of New Japan. Shall it be the seed of the holy Church of Christ also ?

Having lived one year at Fukui Echizen and nearly three years in Tokio, besides having visited Kioto, the scenes of the principal labors of Mr. Yokoi, the father of Mr. Isé, and knowing well the influence of both father and son, and the needs of New Japan, I heartily commend this special Christian enterprise.

## Wm. Elliot Griffis,

Pastor of Shaummut Congregational Church, Boston, Mass., and author of "The Mikado's Empire."

The son of Japan's martyr for liberty and for Christianity, asks for help in winning the intellect and heart of his countrymen to Christ. Send your gifts to Mr. Alpheus H. Hardy, Sears Building, Boston, Mass. The money for the church is to be expended under the oversight of the missionaries of the A. B. C. F. M. in Tokio.

## New Japan and the Gospel.

A young Japanese pastor of a Christian church in Tokio, located near the Imperial University with its two thousand young men, in the educational centre of the Empire containing twenty thousand students of high grade, is now in the United States asking for help to build a church edifice. His name is Isé (ee-say), or, in full, Rev. J. T. Isé. His work is among scholars, students, and the men who will lead New Japan.

Who is he? What is he? Why should American Christians assist, or sympathize with him, any more than with the hundreds of foreigners who come to our shores and want money?

Just here we are reminded of a certain conversation which is found in I Samuel xvii. 55-58.

And when Saul saw David go forth against the Philistine, he said unto Abner, the captain of the host,-
"Abner, whose son is this youth?"
And Abner said,-
"As thy soul liveth, O king, I cannot tell."
And the king said,-
"Inquire thou whose son the stripling is."
And as David returned from the slaughter of the Philistine, Abner took and brought him before Saul with the head of the Philistine in his hand. And Saul said,-
"Whose son art thou, young man?"
And David answered,-
"I am the son of thy servant Jesse, the Bethlehemite."
Now, for the sake of the young man's modesty, we shall not say much about Mr. Isé, except this. Born Dec. 1, 1858, he in 1871 became a Christian, and despite persecution, threats, and a private sort of imprisonment well known in Japan, resolved to be a preacher of the gospel. After three years' study in Tokio and

Kioto he began pastoral work at Imabari, and in two years, by God's blessing, had a church of seventy-seven members, and a good church edifice. In seven years the membership of three huadred and seventy members showed this church to be the largest Protestant church in Japan. Then called to Tokio, to begin work among the students, Mr. Isé has been for over a year pastor of a church of seventy-five members, which is without a house of worship. Having fought the lion and the bear of local heathenism, he is now sallying forth with the gospel pebbles to meet the great Goliath of intellectual unbelief and spiritual apathy at the capital. He is no untried stripling in the discipline of the faith.

But who was his father? Let Americans, always so friendly to Japan, who think Commodore Matthew Perry and the American diplomacy of 1854 and later did so much to create the Japan of to-day, know who Yokoi, the father of this young David of Japan, was. Let them see that God has had equally important instruments inside Japan as well as without.

To tell a long story briefly, Yokoi was born in 1808, and remained a bachelor until forty, that he might become a masterful scholar. Hating mere pedantry and erudition, Yokoi sought to know truth, and to reform his native land, so sunk in heathenism, idolatry, superstition, sensualism and despotism. He waited long years vainly for an opportunity that never came until the American flag mirrored its stars and stripes in the waters of Yedo Bay. Then rising to the occasion, and brave as a lion, Yokoi, despite dangers to his life, declared in favor of intercourse with foreigners, reform of hoary abuses and cruelties, and the lightening of the people's burdens. One of the first to recognize his character and abilities was the Baron of Echizen. Inviting Yokoi to be his teacher and counselor, this enlightened nobleman made his court at Fukui the centre of light, learning, and reform. When called to be premier in Yedo, the Lord of Echizen made Yokoi his righthand man, and noble were their labors in the interest of reform; but the time of cleansing the Augean stables had not yet come, and on the premier resigning office, Yokoi retired to his farm in Higo.

There he conceived the plan of sending Japanese lads to study in the United States, and his nephews, Isé and Numagawa, the first of hundreds to follow, arrived at New Brunswick in 1866 .

He also taught the people to improve the products most in demand in Europe and America, and thus increase Japanese commerte.

Greatest of all, this admirer of the American constitution, government, and people obtained from missionaries in Shanghai a copy of the Bible in Chinese, and, reading it, was convinced of its truth. Though disapproving of some of the forms which Christianity had assumed in the history of Europe, we may say truly that, without having seen a missionary, and when there were no Christians whom he knew of in Japan, and no church, Yokoi was essentially a Christian. In a letter to a friend he wrote, "In a few years Christianity will come to Japan, and capture the hearts of the best young men."

On the 3 d of January, 1868 , the crisis of a century and a half of internal preparation, hastened powerfully by the advent of Perry and foreigners, was precipitated; the Tycoon was overthrown; feudalism received its first blow; and the government which rules Japan was inaugurated. Yokoi was at once summoned to the new cabinet, and made a counselor of the Emperor. Even before he arrived the new constitution had been proclaimed, the Mikado taking oath to enforce the five articles on which it was based. These, proposed by Mr. Yuri, of Fukui, a young disciple of Yokoi, were :-

1. The formation of a congress, or deliberative body
2. The decision of government measures according to public opinion.
3. Abolition of uncivilized customs.
4. Impartiality and justice displayed in nature to be made the basis of action.
5. Intellect and learning to be sought for throughout the whole world to establish the empire.

New Japan was thus born. Arriving promptly in Kioto, Mr. Yokio, then sixty years of age, and the oldest of his colleagues, began his incessant labors in the interest of morality, freedom, reform, and justice. He proposed at once the elevation to citizenship of the degraded Yéta class, who, though human beings, had been treated for centuries as beasts. He plead for freedom of speech and the press, the equalization of taxation, and the grand ideas which, on the inth of February, 1889 , were settled in the present constitution of Japan.


## A SPECIAL PLEA

FOR A

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IN TOKIO, JAPAN.

THE evangelistic efforts in Japan have been hitherto confined almost exclusively to the middle classes of the people. But the time has now come when we should also direct special efforts to the young men in our colleges and to the educated classes. This work is to be mainly done in Tokio. The reasons are : -

1. The young men in the higher institutions of learning, and other educated persons, show signs of much interest in Christianity. Their old prejudices against Christianity are all gone. They have lost faith in their old religions. They are not so confident of the sufficiency of the atheistical philosophies of Europe as they once were. They have found out, after twenty years' trial, that material civilization alone is not sufficient to ennoble an individual life, or to uphold the national morality. They have come to feel a vague and indefinite craving for some object of spiritual devotion, and for some religious certainty that they can believe in
2. The educated young men of Japan occupy a peculłar position in society. Perhaps in no place on earth has an educated young man so great an influence as in Japan at present. The
people are wide awake. Western knowledge is being greedily devoured by all classes. Their one desire is to so advance as to be able to enter the sisterhood of the civilized nations of the West. And when these young men, more or less well equipped, go out into the world, they exactly meet the demands of the hour, and at once assume the leadership. Therefore the permanent success of Christianity in Japan will depend largely on our reaching these men.
3. In Tokio there is an intense centralization. Tokio is the head of Japan. It has over $1,000,000$ people. The most noted politicians, business men, editors, lawyers, physicians, and educators are in Tokio. The most noted schools of the country, with the exception of the Missionary Training School in Kioto, and perhaps one or two others, are there. The number of young men in these colleges is exceedingly large. They represent almost every village and hamlet in the Empire. Out of this large number, probably not one in eighty is a Christian. Therefore the work for these classes in Tokio means the work for the nation.
I have for the last year and a half been holding meetings in the midst of this throng of young men, in a quarter of the city where stand the Imperial University and the First Preparatory College, which together have 2,000 students, out of whom only about fifty are Christians. In this quarter, within two miles, there are probably 20,000 young men in various schools. The place of our meeting has been small and uninviting; yet some of the best of these young men came to hear the gospel, and became Christians. There are now in our church about seventy people, of whom fifty were added last year. Among these we have editors, business men, and physicians; but the larger number are students, representing almost all the important schools in the city. The number might be much larger, and also many of other classes might be brought in, if we had a large and suitable church. We feel this need. We must have an edifice that will seat from 600 to 800 people. The building and the lot will together cost about $\$ 10,000$. We have succeeded in raising only about $\$ 800$ in Japan. Our
little congregation did nobly, and the missionaries and the native friends outside helped us. But we can do no more. The native churches have all they can do in supporting their own pastors, in building their own churches, and in contributing to their own missionary society.

The movement, we think, is exceptional in kind, and one of national importance. The present opportunity is exceedingly favorable, and the need urgent. We therefore appeal for aid to the generosity of the good people of the United States.

This movement is strongly indorsed by my associate pastors of other churches in Tokio, and by Rev. Joseph H. Neesima.

## John T. Ise,

Pastor of the Honge Charch, Tokio, Yapan.
It is a pleasure to me to add to Mr. Ise's statement my hearty commendation of the enterprise which he has undertaken. The reaction from materialistic views of life on the part of the intelligent men of Japan, which he describes, affords a rare opportunity for Christian work among them. I have been familiar with this work among the students from its beginning, some three years ago, and can testify to its great success. During these years it gained steadily, and is now full of promise. From the nature of the case, the members of the congregation, being chiefly students, are poor ; while the necessary expense, both on account of the high price of land and the cost of building materials, is very much greater in the capital than elsewhere in Japan. These considerations serve to emphasize the exceptional character of the appeal, and I earnestly hope it may meet a cordial response.

## D. Crosby Greene,

Missionary in charge of the zvork of the A. B. C. F., M.
Auburndale, May 6, 1889.
Mr. Alpheus H. Hardy, Sears Building, Boston, Mas̆s., will act as treasurer of the funds raised, and checks may be made payable to him.

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Headquarters Inimetenth Infantry,
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SEVENTH REGIMENT,

NATIONAL GUARD.S.N.Y.

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\text { Yaunary } 29 \text { th } 1890
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Major-Meneral Oliver $O$. Steward,
Iovernori' Leland, 4. Y. It.,
Sir :-
In behalf of the officers and memhers of the Seventh Regiment, Rational Sward. S. X. Y., I have the honor to extend an invite. Pion to the officers of your command serving in the vicinity of hew fork, to visit the beventh Regiment Armory on the evening of of ebreary foustunth, 1890 , at eight OClock, when the seventh Regiment wile be paraded in Their honor.

A personal invitation wire be pent to each officer, but if through inadvertence any officer fails to receive an invitaLion, I trust it will be understood that
we army officers in this vicinity wile be welcome on this evening.

It is particularly on r hope that you will honor us by receiving the review and personally inspecting the battation.
$I$ ane,
Very reefing your obed't peris,
Colonel
/ Bonn tho:


LAW OFFICE OF WM. IVES WASHBURN, 3 BROAD STREET.

NEW YORK, January 30 th 1890

Gen. Oliver 0. Howard, U. S. A., Governor's Isl and, New York.

My Dear Sir:
It gives me great pleasure to notify you that at the annual business meeting of the Broadway Tabernacle Church, held last evening, you wore duly elected a member of the Church Committee for the ensuing year.

Yours Sincerely,





$$
\text { January } 30,1890
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My Dear General Howard:
I regret extremely to have missed your call
yesterday. I hope when you return here that you will try to find me.

I wish you would put in writing exactly what your thought is about the newspaper work, that I may have it carefully considered.



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# Commonwealth of Massachusetts. 

## Executive Department.

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\text { Boston, January } 31,1890
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Maj. Gen 0. 0. Howard.

> Commander of the Department of the East. Dear Sir:
> I desire to introduce to $y$ ou in the bearer of this
note Col. H. W. Huguley of this city, who desires to consult you in relation to a subject in which he is deeply interested. Col. Huguley is a merchant and a citizen of good reputation, and I am confident that any favor that you may be able to accord him will be heartily appreciated.

I am yours very respectfully


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## 2 Cited States Senate,

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\text { washington, o. c., Jan 31, } 1890 .
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My dear General:
I know you will be gratified to hear that I have been successful in securing the allowance of a pension for your old friend, B. Chambreau, in whose interest you wrote me sometime since.

Yours very truly,


General 0. 0. Howard,

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\begin{aligned}
& \text { Major-General, U. S. Army, } \\
& \text { Governor's Island, New York. }
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Rev. Horace Bumstead, D. D., president,
Northern Address: Care J. F. Bumstead \& Co.,
148 TREMON7 ST., BOSTON.
148 TREMONT ST. BOSTON.
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