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WHOLE NO. 1790

REV. ISHIDA'S LECTURE.

The Story of His Conversion—The Troublesome English and Its Perseverance—\$5000,000 for Missions \$600,000,000 for Tobacco—God made Man; the Devil Woman—Manners and Customs Contrasted—Costumes and Implements Displayed—His Father Drove Him Off But Has Since Embraced Christianity and Died in the Faith—The Whole Family Saved.

It was our pleasure to see and hear a native Japanese last night in the person of Rev. A S Ishida, who lectured in the Central M E church.

He has spent six years in America, has graduated in his college course and is equipped for preaching to his native people, whither he is making his way.

His means are inadequate and he is making a lecturing tour and with voluntary collections he purposes to gather up enough to make his way back to Japan.

His tongue refuses yet to adapt itself to the English language and parts of his sentences we could not catch.

His experience in trying to master our language was amusing to hear while it showed the distortion of our words as they are wrested from their true meaning to subservise some linguistic fad. For instance, he paid his hotel bill at San Francisco and the clerk said, "this makes us square, come round again." Square means a figure with four equal sides and four right angles. How could he and his companion and the hotel clerk form a square, and then how could they come round if they were square?

A fellow student was prostrated with grief because his sweetheart had kicked him. A sweetheart he found to be the girl a fellow loves, and he wished to see the bravie on his fellow student where she had deposited her foot on the fellow whose woings she spurned, but there was no bruise to be seen and he was informed that the heartless cruel girl had actually "broken" his heart. How could she kick so high and hit his heart so thumpingly as to break it and yet not bruise his external parts. His amazement was complete when he found that the girl was 175 miles away and had to kick all that distance to accomplish this wonderful feat.

He and his fellow Jap were at first alarmed at the immense number of Americans whom they met in the last stages of consumption, for they were spitting blood right and left. Being more courageous than his companion he dared to look more closely at the spittle and concluded that Americans ate too much molasses and it was that working and running over that made them spit, but finally he found it was tobacco.

In America the wife calls her husband and tells him to do this and do that. In Japan the wife does not dare to tell her husband to do anything and does not sit down and eat with her husband but takes rank with the cow and the dog. The eye brows are shaved off and the teeth are blacked as marks that a woman is married.

There the woman bows low and humbly while the man is haughty and erect in his limited greeting. Here he finds gentlemen taking off

their hats and bowing to the ladies who often scarcely make the least indication of equality of rank. Why does she not take off her hat too and at least bow as low as he? Then he finds it impossible for her in an ordinary meeting to remove a whole lot of hair pins that keep at poise the thing she calls a hat and make a bow. In this time the gentleman would be gone.

These things were very funny to the audience but the lecturer turned them to good account.

The Japanese Bible says God made the man, the devil made the woman.

Of all the world's happy creatures he thinks the woman in Christian lands is the most favored and should be the most happy, but he often finds it not the case.

In Japanese idol worship she has a different god and a different temple and the burden of her prayer is that her god will let her die and be born again a man.

No one wants to be a heathen woman. The boy in the nursery cries on when told to hush but when reminded that if he does not hush their god will make him a girl he stops the crying at once.

The speaker praised the American people for sending \$5,000,000 annually to convert heathen but thought \$600,000,000 spent for tobacco would do so much better added to the missionary fund. The converted Jap, he says, stops the use of tobacco at once.

It was truly touching to hear the lecturer tell his history. His father was a priest of idol worship and himself a bankers clerk at a good salary. The missionary gave him the New Testament, which he read and believed and wished his father to read also. The father burned the book and forbade the son to remain under his roof a Christian. The struggle that followed while he was gathering light and grace, through the aid of the missionary, was thrilling to hear.

The father was austere, while his mother and his sister, who seemed especially dear to him, plead with him to give up Christianity and remain with them, but that he could not do.

Since he has been here he received letters from each announcing the glad tidings that all had embraced the Christian religion, his father having since died in the faith.

The lecturer read and sang in native Japanese that was of course the very things that we wanted to hear.

For want of time he could not show us all that he might have shown of curiosities. We will note some in their order.

With a little box of apparatus he showed the rapid and accurate means of addition of numbers. It far surpassed the ordinary methods with us.

The Japanese cloak is much like our talma overcoat in style with very large pockets attached underneath the arm covering. He showed a white silk shawl inwrought with colored silk in beautiful design, sent him by his sister, to be sold to help him to get home. Also what seemed to us an article resembling the common wash stand splasher, elaborate'y inwrought with silk, at which his sister had wrought with her needle for 42 days. (He thought the American girl could not stay off her wheel to work 42 days solidly with her needle).

The silk stocking is nearly like the late foot warmer without the

leather sole and having a socket for the big toe.

The Japaneze pillow is a block of wood shaped somewhat like a blacksmith's anvil but is about three inches high and has a face, on which to rest the head, of about one and a half inches.

The pipe has a stem nearly like our common pipe with a merely turned up enlargement, in which Jap puts a little tobacco and lights it, then takes a single whiff, empties his pipe and puts it away, having smoked.

The smoothing iron is much like the plasterers diminutive trowel, having handle like a trowel and of six or more inches long. The smoother is, in shape, like our smoother, but very small.

The shoe is our notion of the eastern sandal. It is a sole with instep and big toe straps and held on by pressing downward with the big toe.

The musical instrument seemed a travesty complete a thing seeming like two mussel shell shaped pieces of wood put together looking like a baby's rattle, without the rattle, with a hand hold. In all it is about the size of your two fists. The musician strikes the time on it while he sings and that's all there is in it.

The eloquence and pathos of the speaker were very impressive and one could feel that a wide field of usefulness is open to him in his native land where his tongue is adapted by generations of inherited adaptation to the language.

He passed cards around on which those wishing to contribute could write their names and the amounts, then they and all others were asked to give him a good-bye hand shake while they laid down the cards and contributions on the altar table, meanwhile that dear old song, "God be with you till we meet again," was being rendered.

The sound of our "z" enters largely into his articulations and when he grasped the writers hand he said something like "Zu a newspaper?" From force of habit, of not drawing the finest lines on the borders of truthfulness, into which our craftsmen are expected to fall we bowed our assent and felt that we gave no misleading answer.

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Several Thousand There.

The picnic at Mooresville, Thursday, for the benefit of the Barium Springs Orphanage, was a happy occasion and a great financial success. Several thousand people were in attendance. In the forenoon the Rev. J H Thornwell, of Fort Mill, S. C., a former resident of this city, delivered an appropriate address, after which the children of the Orphanage gave an entertaining concert. In the afternoon, the Hon. Benjamin R Tillman, United States Senator from South Carolina, spoke to the attendants.

Mrs. W H Elliot, of this city, who was in attendance, was accompanied by her son and daughter, Vaughn and Mariah, who will remain here until August 28th, when they will return to their home.

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Good middling.....	8 35
Middlings.....	8 10
Low middling.....	8 00
ains.....	6 65

PRODUCE MARKET.

Corrected by Swink & White.

Bacon.....	7
Sugar-cured hams.....	12 1/2 to 14
Bulk meats, sides.....	6 to 5
Beeswax.....	20
Butter.....	10 to 15
Chickens.....	8 to 20
Oorn.....	57
Eggs.....	8 1/2
Lard.....	7
Flour (North Carolina).....	\$2.40
Meal.....	60
Oats.....	3 3
Fallow.....	4 to 5

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