

**A QUARTER OF A CENTURY
IN THE ISLAND
EMPIRE, OR, THE PROGRESS
OF A MISSION IN JAPAN**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649471454

A Quarter of a Century in the Island Empire, Or, The Progress of a Mission in Japan by Mrs. L. H. Pierson

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Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
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MRS. L. H. PIERSON

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A QUARTER OF A CENTURY
IN THE
ISLAND EMPIRE
OR
THE PROGRESS OF A MISSION
IN JAPAN

BY
MRS. L. H. PIERSON
YOKOHAMA



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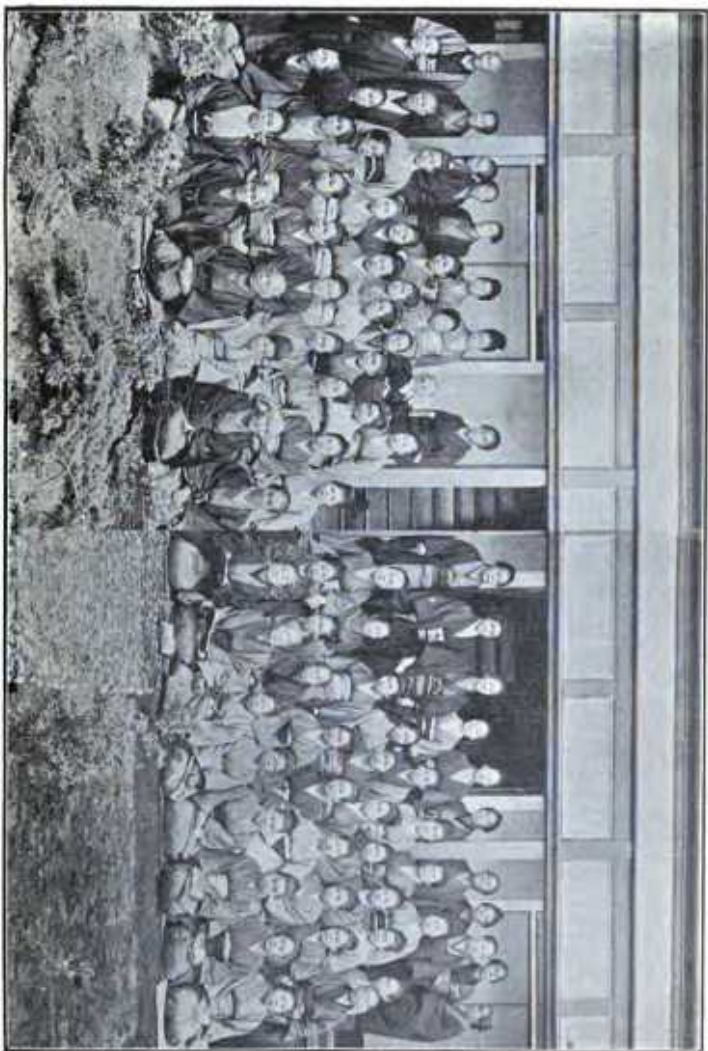
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TO THE
DEAR AMERICAN FRIENDS
WHO HAVE SO NOBLY SUSTAINED
THIS WORK OF THE LORD IN JAPAN
THIS HUMBLE VOLUME
is *Affectionately* Inscribed
BY THE AUTHOR

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PREFACE

It cannot be truly said that there is no demand for more definite information concerning Foreign Missions. The irresistible rush and accelerated activities of the West, at this present epoch, preclude to some extent the fair investigation, sympathy and appreciation, which they may rightfully claim. The methods employed, the results produced are not lightly apparent and are therefore ignored or misrepresented by casual superficial observers. It is obvious to every honest mind that all true civilization and progress emanate from the Gospel of Christ, the power that moves the heart of the world. To propagate this Gospel, to induce obedience to its pure, righteous, incomparable precepts and Divine commands are the objects of Missions. No opposing argument can shake the substantial facts underlying them; the church of Christ bears the irreversible commission for the proclamation of the Gospel Message, wherever the sun shines, wherever human hearts pulsate in all lands of the earth. Accordingly the Woman's Union Missionary Society of America, for Heathen Lands, was organized in November 1860, and incorporated in New York, Feb. 1., 1861. During this long period replete with political changes, financial depressions, and other adverse circumstances, its devoted members have maintained their noble attitude, resolutely contending with the tide of evil, superstition and idolatry which floods the Orient and defiles