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THE RELIGION OF JESUS

TOYOHICO KAGAWA

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A BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH IN FOUR ACTS

I

ONE Sunday morning about a quarter of a century ago an American missionary got home after the morning service in the Japanese church to which he was attached. The rainy season was on and everything was hot and sticky and trying to the nerves, as such days can be in a land which has the reputation of robbing a white man of his teeth and his hair, his temper and his memory. So when shortly after the maid announced that a Japanese student had called and wished to see him, the news was decidedly less appetizing than the midday meal spread before him. Japanese students often seem to be under the impression that missionaries are sent to Japan to teach them English.

When the meal was over the missionary went along to see the boy, and found that it was a member of his Bible class who had called. A word of greeting, an inquiry as to what he wanted—and then the boy burst into tears. Students in Japan are no more prone to do this kind of thing than their fellows in the West. In an instant the missionary's attitude was