

the child anxious to hear the message that had made the boy so happy. Have you ever thanked God for sending Jesus to die for you? I do not mean with your lips only; but have you ever felt very glad in your heart about it? If not, you have not yet begun to learn the song that is sung in heaven. If you would like to learn it, Jesus will teach it to you by His Spirit, no one else can; and then you will have begun to get ready for the home above.

Another thing I notice about the people in heaven is their clothes. They have all white robes. I think that means that their hearts were pure and white, like it says in the psalm, "Who shall ascend into Thy holy hill?" And the answer is, "He that hath clean hands and a pure heart." The hearts of those happy people were not always clean. Once they were black and stained with sin, but they washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Their robes were washed down here on earth, before they were ready to go to heaven. It is sin that makes our hearts black. A little boy had a very bad temper, and his father wanted to help him to overcome it, and the first thing towards that was to make him feel how strong his fault was. So he gave his son a hammer and nails, and told him to knock a nail into the wall whenever he got angry. Very soon the boy came to his father, and led him into his room, and with much shame and sorrow showed him his wall all covered with nails. Now the child was in earnest in wishing to overcome his bad temper; but he had hard work. His father advised him each time that he got a victory over his temper, to pull out one of the nails. It was a long business, but at last it was accomplished, and the boy again led his father into his room. His father began to congratulate him, but the boy stopped him, with a sad face and the words, "But, father, the marks are left." Yes, each sin leaves a black mark on our hearts

and before we can enter heaven our hearts must be washed white; but Jesus can do this for us. Let us ask Him, and say, "Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow;" and then He will say to us, "Though your sins be as scarlet they shall be white as wool."

One thing more I notice in our text, "What is it those singers are holding in their hands? Palm branches; those are a sign of victory. You know what must come before a victory—a battle. There is a battle which we all must fight if we ever want to wave the palm branches, the sign of victory. We have to fight with our great enemy the devil, who is like a roaring lion; but though he is like a lion in some things, he is not in others. If even a little child will resist him, the devil will flee away. Why is this? Because he knows that that little child is not alone, but that the Captain of our army, who has Himself fought and conquered Satan, is with the youngest and weakest of His soldiers, who is trying to fight for Him. Then we have to fight with ourselves. We must not always do the things we want to do. If we want to be good soldiers of Jesus Christ, we must give up our own wishes, and try to please not ourselves but our Captain. How we like to read of our English soldiers and the wonderful Balaclava charge! They had hard work to do, and they did it, though their leader had made a mistake. But our Captain never makes mistakes, He never gives us anything to do which is too hard for us; and one day He will say to each earnest little soldier, "Well done, good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."—*Sunday Magazine*

CHINA MISSION.

The following is an extract from a letter from Mr. Cockburn—describing a visit made by him to a Chinese village in the neighborhood of Hankow—which it is hoped will be found interesting to the readers of the RECORD:—