

be pleased to have any items of interest, that may be passed on to aid others. Is it true that

"We can all do more than we have done  
And not be a bit the worse.  
'Twas never loving that emptied the heart  
Nor giving that emptied the purse."

You love your band work? It will make your life richer here, and give plentiful reward in eternity. You give your time, money and service freely. "It is more blessed to give than to receive." "God loveth the cheerful giver." Sweet are God's promises; He will never fail us. Trust Him and go ahead.

Yours in the Band work,

SARAH STUART BARBER.

35 Charlotte St.,  
Brantford, Ont.

#### A WEDDING IN CHINA.

**W**OULD you like to hear of a grand wedding in China? About 300 guests were invited, and as the house was not big enough to hold them all, a reception room had to be put up with bamboo poles and straw.

The missionary living near by looked at the proceedings so she could write to friends in Canada about it. Barrels of the queerest kinds of food were "stewed, fried and frizzled" by a set of cooks hired for the great feast. The house was decorated with red and gilt and the Chinese word for "happiness" put up over the door. When the invited guests came the gentlemen all wore broad-brimmed fur turbans with scarlet tassels and gilt buttons. A long silk or satin outside garment of some bright color lined with fur. The ladies wore no hats, but had gold or silver ornaments in their hair, or bunches of bright flowers. Their outside garment was a loose sack of blue or yellow made with long flowing sleeves. A black grenadine skirt came next, short enough to show the little bound feet on which they could hobble about. This was a fashionable heathen wedding, and the foreign barbarians who watched proceedings were of no account. After the guests had assembled and made their bows and salutations to each other, a crowd of ragged beggars came as burden-bear-

ers. Trunks, rolls, bundles, tables, chairs, dishes, clocks, jewels—all bridal presents, and carried by dirty ragged beggars.

These street beggars are hired to attend both weddings and funerals in China. Now the procession of musicians with gongs, drums and trumpets and other instruments for making strange noises. At last the bride arrived being carried in a red chair, and with more music, flags, and beggars. A bunch of fire crackers was set off for good luck, and the bride's chair carried over a pan of coals so no evil spirits could creep in.

After loud knocking and much talking the door was opened and the little bride carried inside. Just what took place during the next three days our missionary's letter did not tell, but many a bride never sees her husband, in China, until the day she is to marry him. All is arranged by a "go-between," and fortune tellers who pretend to be able to tell the right persons to marry each other. Then the household gods are set up and the little bride bows down before them. The wedding feast lasted three days and some of the guests came over to the mission house from curiosity. They say such a wedding costs three thousand dollars. No wonder the Chinese think they cannot afford to bring up many girls in their homes. Are you not glad that our missionaries are teaching them so many better things? How thankful we should all be that our home is in a land where the Bible is read, and Jesus Christ is known as the only Saviour! Let us pray for the women and girls of China.

SISTER BELLE.

558 McLaren St. Ottawa.

#### SHOES FOR MOHAMMEDANS.

In view of the fact that Mohammedans ought to wear only sandals to please the Prophet, and that Hindus abominate dead animal skins, it is interesting to note the growing Indian taste for boots and shoes of foreign make, shown by the steady increase in the imports of these articles year by year. In 1900-1901, the number of pairs imported was 709,059; during the succeeding year the figures rose to 746,099; while last year they jumped up to 853,358 pairs.