

bad meaning are built up in various ways from the character which signifies woman. To mention a few: envy, intriguing, boasting, brawling, inordinate, disobliging, gamble. The word for pained (grieved) is made up of two characters, one meaning wife, the other heart. Significant indeed!

No matter how poor or ignorant of Christian teaching a woman in America may be, she, at least, can love her baby, can nurse it tenderly during illness, can lay it away in the grave without bitterness, and look back upon its little life with tender sorrow. All that is impossible in China. Why? Do not Chinese women love their children? Yes, and more patient, self-denying mothers it would be hard to find. But, with the cruelty of all heathen religions, they are taught to believe that if their babies die it is proof they never were their children at all, only some evil spirits that came to torment them; and, so, a mother must at once stop loving the little creature that had so often nestled in her arms, and must hate the devil that has caused so much misery. Is not that the refinement of cruelty? As a former missionary in Peking said: "When a child sickens it has, according to the means and intelligence of the parents, the same anxious care and medical attendance that would be given among us; but if remedies fail of effect and death is apparently near, the situation changes at once. The little thing is stripped naked and placed on the mud or brick floor, just inside the outer door. The parents leave it there and watch the issue. If it survives the ordeal, which is seldom the case, it is a true child of their own flesh and blood; if it dies, it never was their child and is thrown into the street. No power could induce them to give it proper burial in the family resting place for the dead. This theory and line of conduct are common to all classes of the Chinese." The military governor of Peking, an officer of the highest rank and a man of unusual intelligence, had a bright boy who at two months old began to pine. He said, "I called our native physician, but he grew worse, and as a last resort I called one of your foreign doctors. You can conceive how anxious I was that he should live, by my consent to do that; but he could not help the little fellow, and one night last week I was obliged to throw his body outside the door." What does throwing his body outside the door mean? It is almost too horrible to tell, but you ought to know the tender mercies of heathenism. As Mr. Holcomb says: "If you lived in Peking, you would be surprised never to see a child's funeral pass, but if you go into the street very early in the morning, you would find the explanation. You would meet a large, covered vehicle drawn by two oxen, having a sign across the front stating its horrible office, and piled to the brim with the bodies of children. Sometimes there are a hundred in the cart at once, thrown in as garbage, nearly all of them naked, a few tied up in old reed baskets and fewer, never