

a god for hundreds of years. In some families he has no image set up, and the incense sticks burned in worshipping him are stuck in the crevices of the range chimney. Maay put his image in the main room of the house. His birthday is the fourteenth of the seventh month, and on that day every family worships him, each in its own house.

On the twenty-fourth day of the last month of the year, when the gods are supposed to go off for a ten day's holiday, a paper horse and other travelling equipments are burned for his use during his journey to make his annual report to the superior gods. A lamp is kept constantly burning during the first days of the new year, to indicate that the family are waiting to welcome him whenever he returns. When children have been away from home, after greeting their parents, they worship Su Meng Kong. If the house-mother rears fat pigs, she credits her success to his good will, and makes suitable thank-offerings to him. — *A. M. Fiddle, in Missionary Link.*

CHILDREN OF SOUTH AFRICA.

Dr. Livingstone tells us that the children of South Africa have merry times, especially in the cool of the evening. In one of their games a little girl is carried on the shoulders of two others. She sits with outstretched arms, as they walk about with her, and all the rest clap their hands, and stopping before the door of each hut sing pretty airs, some beating time, and others making a curious humming-sound between the songs.

The girls also skip rope and play at housekeeping and cooking, in imitation of the work of their mothers. The boys play war with small shields and bows and arrows, or build little cattle pens for the cattle, which they form of clay. Livingstone's looking-glass was ever a source of entertainment to them. They often borrowed it, and the remarks they made were very entertaining to Livingstone as he was apparently engaged in reading and not hearing them. "Is that me?" "What a

big mouth I have!" "My ears are as big as punkin leaves." "I would have been pretty, but am spoiled by these high cheek-bones." All this while laughing heartily at their own jokes.

While they seem thus conscious of their own defects, they have no great admiration for the beauty of white people, though one woman remarked, "they are not so ugly after all, if they only had toes!" She evidently thought that the shoe was the foot itself, and was only convinced of her mistake when she saw the covering removed. — *Little Missionary.*

PLEASANT JACK.

Occasionally we meet people to whom it seems to come natural to be pleasant. Such are as welcome wherever they go, as flowers in May, and the most charming thing about them is that they help to make other people pleasant too. Their pleasantness is contagious.

The other morning we were in the midst of a three days rain. The fire smoked, the dining-room was chilly, and when we assembled for breakfast, papa looked rather grim, and mamma tired, for the baby had been restless all night. Polly was plainly inclined to fretfulness, and Bridget was undeniably cross, when Jack came in with the breakfast-rolls from the baker's. He had taken off his rubber coat and boots in the entry, and he came in *rosy and smiling*.

"Here's the paper, sir," said he to his father, with such a cheerful tone that his father's brow relaxed, and he said, "Ah, Jack, thank you," quite pleasantly.

His mother looked up at him smiling, and he just touched her cheek gently as he passed.

"The top of the morning to you, pollywog," he said to his little sister, and delivered the rolls to Bridget, with a "Here you are, Bridget. Aren't you sorry you didn't go yourself this beautiful day?"

He gave the fire a poke and opened a damper. The smoke ceased, and presently the coals began to glow, and five minutes after Jack came in we had gathered