

supporting from the start. A good beginning.

In New York there are said to be nearly 5000 Chinese. One thousand pupils are attending schools, and a great effort is put forth to bring young and old to a saving knowledge of Christ. How many Chinese are coming to America to learn of Jesus.

For 360 years the Roman Catholic Church has had sway in Mexico. The people now have no Bibles to read, and if they had, not more than twenty-five in one hundred could read them. The children have no books or newspapers to read, and do not play as heartily as in these provinces. Life for them is only a treadmill. How thankful we should be for the true light.

In Terra del Fuego a cluster of rocky islands inhabited by a few degraded savages. 500 copies of the Word of God were circulated last year. Thus the Bible finds its way among the lowest and vilest on earth. One man in Northern Russia last year distributed not less than 100,000 copies of the Bible. One willing worker, children, can do a great deal.

A little Hindu boy writes to a friend: I go to a mission school, and every morning the master tells us about Christ and heaven, and I have wanted for a long time to love Jesus, but I have not dared to. Often at night have I cried myself to sleep under my blanket that I must still be a Hindu when so many of the little boys who were Christians seemed so happy.

When a babe is born in China, if a little boy, when a day or two old, his head is cauterized with red hot iron the size of a twenty-five cent piece. They inflict this burn in the foolish belief that by so doing evil will be averted, and bad humors will be drawn out of the body. Chinese mothers would rather see boys than girls born. They think that boys keep up the family name, and when they die they believe their sons will be able to supply them with food and with what ever else they need in the spirit world.

A sad story is lately told of a woman in Africa. She had offended her husband and he forced her to drink poison. Failing to kill her she was sold to a slave driver in the East, away from her little child three years old. At the slave caravan she anxiously watched that she might effect her escape. When the night watchman was asleep she managed to loosen

her hands, walked day and night through the brush sprang into the house seized her child and escaped to Livingstonia. Does not this story show us that there is a great work to be done in Africa.

Among the American Indians there is a tribe called the Spokane Indians. They belong to what is called the Flathead group. They receive this name because of the practice which prevails among them of flattening the heads of both sexes when infants. This is done by means of a bandage placed on the forehead, drawn tightly backward and forward and fastened on the board to which the child is strapped. This bandage is drawn tighter and tighter every week for a whole year, when the Papoose becomes a Flathead. This process is begun soon after birth, and is continued longer with girls than boys, and is supposed to make the face beautiful.

LETTER TO THE CHILDREN FROM JAPAN.

[The following is one of the Monthly Letters sent out from the Mission Rooms to the children of the Methodist Episcopal Church. It is written by Rev. J. C. Davison, of the Japan Mission.]

Dear Sunday school Friends:

Only a few months ago I was in Japan preparing for a visit to America after an absence of nine years. A sail of 6,000 miles brought us to San Francisco, where I began talking to the Sunday-school children. Japan is almost like fairy land in many respects, and many of the customs of the people are very interesting indeed, but their religion says there is no salvation for little children. When little ones die it is said they go to *sai no kawara*, a place like the bed of a dry river, and there amuse themselves by scraping up heaps of pebble stones which naughty demons are all the time trying to knock down. They think the highest bliss for any man is to sit on a great lotus blossom and meditate forever, but never knowing what he thinks, nor even knowing what he thinks at all. How different from what God tells us in the Bible and also tells us to tell them! You have heard much about idols made of wood, stone, bronze, etc., some small enough to be put in your pocket, others quite as large as a man, while some are over seventy feet high in a sitting posture, whose thumbs even are as thick as a man's body. All