

upon two rival cocks. Artificial spurs, made of some kind of metal, are placed upon the legs of the cocks, to enable them to fight more savagely. Sometimes one of the cocks falls down dead while fighting, and cases sometimes occur in which they both die in actual combat. Such sports must have a bad influence on those who witness them, and especially on those who take a more active part in them. I should think it would almost turn people into a race of tigers, after a while. I sincerely hope that none of my readers will ever have any thing to do with cock-fighting. — *Stories About Birds.*

Chinese Children.

Miss Harvett, an agent of the Society for Promoting Female Education in the East, writes as follows, a few days after her arrival in the city of Amoy, China:—"The streets are so exceedingly narrow that two persons can scarcely walk together; besides, they are very filthy, and crowded with people; the interior of the houses is quite as crowded and filthy. The first objects observable on entering the door, are the idols, enshrined on a high table or desk, decorated with various fantastic ornaments. The people are very strangely dressed, with a profusion of scarlet and yellow flowers in their hair, and various bands and pins, producing altogether the most singular appearance; but what is most pleasing is, that they are very anxious to be visited, and to give their children to be taught. At one house we visited yesterday, having heard that a female infant had been born, and that the mother was intending to destroy it, we asked to see the child, and found it still living, a lovely black-eyed little thing. It was immediately offered to Mrs. Young, and on her agreeing to take it as soon as it could leave its mother, and until that time to pay the mother for nursing it, it was settled that the child should live. Mrs. Young tells me that this is a very common thing here;

and I have several times in my walks, passed a dirty looking pit by the roadside, into which these poor little infants had been thrown. Oh, if we had but an orphan asylum here, how many might be saved!

We have been favoured with the perusal of a letter written by Mrs. Young in April last, to a friend deeply interested in the Amoy mission. The following paragraph extracted from this letter will interest our young readers:—"I wish you could be placed as we are, amongst these poor ignorant women here, few of them being able to read or write, and knowing nothing about a Saviour and the way of salvation. I think your heart would often ache for them, and a very different impression be made from the one common at home, of the Chinese being such a well-educated people. It is true many of the boys are taught to read and write, but the girls very rarely receive any education. Our school girls have given general satisfaction. They are, I think, when taught, able to learn quite as well as children at home; some of them have very good abilities, and seem to like learning. Their instruction is chiefly religious, and their books mostly so. We give them a little time each day to learn their own books, as their parents perhaps would not consider their education finished without them. Their education is conducted chiefly in their own language. Hitherto it was altogether in Chinese; but now we have a lady with us sent out by the Society for Promoting Female Education in the East, who teaches them English in the after-part of the day. We have worship daily in Chinese; the children all attend. We have one weekly service on Tuesdays, for women, when the girls together with their friends, and some of their mothers and grandmothers frequently attend with other women. This meeting is held at Mr. A. Stronach's house near our own. Every Sabbath morning, the girls attend the Chinese service, conducted either by Mr. Young, or Mr. A. Stronach, and