

give his girls a fair English education, would be greatly helped if he could save the money his daughters spend in having their dresses and other garments made by professional people, instead of by themselves in their own homes. We commend the suggestion to those interested, and should be glad to hear from some of our contributors on the subject.

THE CHINESE.

IF the description of Chinatown in San Francisco be true, as given by the *Chronicle* of that city, the advent of the Mongol in any considerable numbers in Canada is an event not by any means to be desired.

It seems that a gentleman named Denby, wishing personally to inspect the Chinese quarter, secured the guidance and protection of the police, and, in company with some friends and the reporter of the *Chronicle*, made the tour after the shades of night had fallen on the city. We have all heard and read of the economical manner in which the Chinese live, and how they are thus enabled to subsist on wages which would be starvation to a white laborer, but the disclosures of filthiness and brutality which met the astonished explorers were such as could scarcely be believed without the actual evidence of their own senses.

The lodging places were inspected first, and were so much alike that a description of one suffices for all. Some of the rooms were under ground, some above, and were of the size originally intended for one sleeper. In these as many as twenty coolies lodged, so that in a house of five sleeping-rooms, where five white laborers might lodge comfortably, the reeking air was breathed over and over again by one hundred persons until it became so foul that no one but a Chinese could live amid its almost visible impurity. Added to this were the conglomerations of smells from filthy cellars, where in some cases the cooking ranges were situated, the fumes of charcoal from the open fires in the passage ways where midnight meals were prepared, and the other thousand and one odors which, mingling, produced an atmosphere so overpoweringly vile that some of the party were obliged to succumb. These lodgings cost 25c. a week, and the meals, cooked by the men themselves, cost 5c. each. Other parts of Chinatown were visited; the theatre, the opium dens, the houses of prostitution, and the scenes witnessed were something fearful to contemplate. We

have not space, even had we the will, to pursue the unsavory subject. The question is do we want such scenes in our midst in Toronto? We have heard over and over again the cry that it is unchristian—that it is sinful to wish to exclude the Chinaman from our shores if he wants to come—that the Chinese make good servants, are inoffensive, peaceful, and well-behaved, and that we ought to hail the opportunity their coming would afford to Christianize them and bring them under the influence of civilization.

This sounds well. But is it possible to civilize and Christianize the man who has so strong an aversion to the realms of Christianity and civilization that he will not allow even his bones to rest within their bounds? And if the story of the 35,000 Chinese laborers of San Francisco be true, should we not pay a fearful price for the privilege of converting and civilizing, say, one in a thousand? It is a question that must be answered, and the Government of Canada will do well to take the matter into immediate consideration. The swarms of Chinese now employed on the Canadian Pacific Railway will, on its completion, be compelled to seek other fields. Are we ready to welcome them in the East? Are we willing that the, even now in many cases, poorly paid labor employed in our cities shall be subjected to the competition which the advent of the coolie would render certain? If so, by all means let him come. But if we as a people have any sympathy with poor men, who even under present conditions find it hard enough to live and bring up their families in decency, and something approaching to comfort, we are bound, aside from considerations of morality, to raise our voices against the inroads of barbarians whose presence would increase these difficulties tenfold.

THE SALVATION ARMY.

WE may as well say at once that we have a strong prejudice against the tawdry clothing, the drums, banners, tambourines, etc., without which the considerable number of people who style themselves the "Salvation Army" and who parade our streets nightly, seem to consider it impossible to conduct their marches and public services. We also object to many of the methods employed by that organization to win over, as they profess, the ungodly from the error of their ways. It will be seen at once, therefore, that whatever views we may feel compelled to hold with regard to this subject cannot be fairly