

They are the original, true and only real shopkeepers. The Chinese may be said to think in money. In common with Orientals generally, they are fascinated by the sport of bargaining, as the cat is by playing its mouse or a fisherman his salmon. It is said that the great Li Hung Chang derived a purer pleasure from "doing" an employee out of half a month's pay, as the result of an afternoon's contest, than if he had saved a province of the Empire.

Chinese whom he did not know. They were well dressed and most respectful. After the usual conventional preliminaries the principal man of the party, which seemed like a deputation, explained that he was the son of a Chinese gentleman who had died more than twenty years before, while the speaker was still a child; that he had been told by his relatives of the kindness which the Englishman had shown to his father in those old days, but had



STREET IN SHANGHAI.

Though parsimonious, the Chinaman is not mean. He is generous almost to a fault when the humour takes him, meets a loss stoically, lends freely with small expectation of return, and rarely sues for a debt.

All foreigners who have studied the Chinese in a human, sympathetic manner, testify to their devotion and gratitude. It happened to an Englishman once to revisit China after the lapse of many years. One day he was surprised to receive a call from some

never, since he grew up, had any means of expressing his gratitude. Now it had come to his ears that a person bearing the name of his father's friend had recently arrived in the town, but he could not tell if it was the same. So he paid this visit merely to find out, was overjoyed to have discovered him, and begged to be allowed to pay his homage on another occasion. Exchange of family news naturally took place, and on his next visit the Chinese gentleman came laden with valuable presents specially