



ST. GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL, KINGSTON, AS IT IS.

Even babies in arms have bracelets of silver round their wrists and ankles.

As the girls get older, if they are of high caste or station, their feet are doubled up as you would double up your hand, and then tightly bound so as to make them look like hard round lumps. At one Chinese house, the owner, Ah Lun by name, had two wives, which is allowed by their laws; one wife was high caste, the other low caste, so the poor little daughter of the high caste mother, who herself was scarcely seen, was finely clad in blue cloth with tiny round gilt buttons, and she used to sit on the verandah with her feet painfully tied up, and watch the noisy, frisky gambols of her half brother and sister, who not being of high degree were able to run about and shout and sing like any other ordinary children; but perhaps the knowledge of her high caste made up for the misery she was undergoing! In Honolulu one day I walked behind a tiny maiden not more than five years old, who was toddling along in most gorgeously embroidered clothes; the little robe of the brightest silk with flowers worked on it in gold and silver thread, her shoes were also of embroidered silk, with very high, thick white soles, made of some composition, her hair was elaborately done up with plaits, bent into different shapes, standing out from her head, and silver pins thrust through them, her face was painted rose-pink and white, and just behind each ear was fastened an artificial pink

rose with silver leaves; this funny little figure trotted along in the hot sun with no covering on her head, holding the hand of some man who was taking her to some feast, no doubt.

The Japanese women carried their babies slung in a kind of scarf which was tied round their bodies, and it is a very funny sight to see these Japanese mothers clumping about on their high wooden shoes, which are about a foot off the floor, their queer narrow skirts wrapped round them, and the dark face and twinkling eyes of a baby peeping over their shoulders.

Then, saddest of all, one would think, are the little leper children who are doomed from their birth to be diseased; in some of them the signs of the dreadful plague shew when very young, but unless some of their people give them up to be sent to Molokai, where the poor lepers live, they will run about with all the other children in school and on the plantations; one day I was talking to our doctor, standing on his verandah, when the children from the school ran down the road, scampering about in their delight at getting free, when the doctor said, "There is a child who has no business to be with the others; she is a leper." I looked and there was a little native girl about seven, running down the hill, with the usual cotton holoku, or loose dress worn by the native women; she seemed quite merry but did not move so quickly as the others; probably her legs were diseased. In Molokai, where the good Father Damien lived and died amongst the poor lepers, there are schools and work shops, and the children born and living there know no other life; everyone tries to be thoughtful for the leper children, and each Christmas and other great holidays, the steamer is laden with good things and gifts from the people in Honolulu. When the mothers and friends hear that the sheriff and his policemen are in the district they know that their leper relatives are to be searched for, and, if found, they will be taken away, so they make up parties, and carry the boy or girl, or whoever it may be away up into the mountains, where the natives know of hiding places no white person can find; then when the alarm is over and the sheriff is gone, they come down again and bring the child to their hut to lie amongst them until the next alarm.

(To be continued.)

OUR PARISHES AND CHURCHES.

No. 60. — ST. GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL, KINGSTON



HOW St. George's Cathedral, Kingston, as it now stands, cannot be called a handsome building, it is nevertheless a good substantial connecting link between the present and the past, and it is satisfactory to know that in the extensive