

sons of rich and noble parents. This, of course, makes them anxious that their children should be well educated. And sometimes when a very poor man wishes to send a boy to school, several relations will subscribe sufficient money to educate him; so that if he be diligent, he will have a chance of becoming rich and honorable.

The Chinese have many stories of men who have been famous for learning, and they repeat them to their children to stir them up to diligence and perseverance.

I have read two of these stories, which I will tell you. "A great many years ago there lived a very learned man; when he was young he was very idle, and paid no attention to his studies. As he was one day rambling about in his usual idle way, he saw an old woman rubbing an iron crow bar on a stone; he said to her, 'What are you doing, mother?' 'O,' said she, 'I want a needle, and I am grinding down this crow-bar to make one.' The young man was so struck with the diligence and perseverance of the old woman, that he went home, applied himself to his studies with all his might, and became one of the most learned of the Chinese sages." The other anecdote is of a young man who was very fond of study, but was too poor to buy a candle to read at night; so he broke a hole in the wall of his chamber, that he might read by the light of his neighbor's candle which shone through the hole.

Every three years it is the custom in China for the magistrate in the capital city of each province to give prizes or degrees to those students who are considered the most clever. Mr. Smith, the Missionary, says that the year he was in Canton there were seventy-two degrees given; these seventy-two scholars were chosen out of eight thousand candidates: the honor gained by these degrees is so great, that men will sometimes persevere through successive years of disappoint-

ment till their seventieth or eightieth year.

Now this would be all very pleasant to think about, if it were true wisdom that these Chinese were striving to obtain; but, alas! their learning is all foolishness, vain philosophy, and maxims of heathen sages, that would never do any good, either to the head or the heart; this is proved in their daily life.

How happy will the time be when these learning loving people will study the Holy Scriptures, and find there knowledge, and happiness, and eternal life!

"MOTHERS—MONSTERS."

Dear young friends, did you ever think about your mother's love? There are but few things which you should think of with more pleasure, or which show more clearly how kind God has been to you. Before, as a helpless babe, you saw the light, He, the great, the good Creator, had prepared for you a friend in your fond mother, and a soft pillow near her loving heart; and in that heart, as soon as your early cries reached her ear, there sprung up a thousand warm and tender feelings towards you, which have led her ever since to watch, and plan, and labor, and suffer, for your sake. How much, then, do you owe to that dear mother, and how much more to God, who put such love into her heart! But there is one thing about this love which you should particularly notice, and which, if you think aright, you will greatly admire. It is this: if in a family there be one child which needs more care than all the rest—if it be weak, or blind, or a cripple, you may be quite sure that that little one will have the largest share of its mother's love. Over it she will shed her tenderest tears, and, for its welfare, she will willingly watch by night, and toil by day. Nor does she ever seem to grow weary in her labor of love. And why does she feel and act in this way towards that child? It is because