

little they tumble down. Often the poor natives have not a dry place left, and the sick lie on beds soaking wet. Our mission houses although much better, are often badly damaged by these heavy rains.

Inside these hovels you will find a stone platform which runs all around the room, this is the bed; you will see idols set up on shelves, and a fine red and yellow kitchen god. There will be a little mud stove, which always smokes and never keeps you warm enough. You will find the family at meal times sitting around an iron pot filled with porridge which is put into a dirty bowl and eaten with chop sticks. The floor of earth is much of the time cold and damp, and on it children often sit all day making fire crackers and paper flowers.

DRESS.

The dress of the Chinese children consists of a waist-coat worn next the skin—a tunic and a pair of wadded drawers. Those of you who live in cities and see Chinamen know how the shoes look with white edges to the soles.

The hair of a Chinese child receives especial attention—some of the girls wear it twisted into a horn on each side of the head. Each horn is sometimes adorned by a great deal of red cord, and artificial flowers are fastened at one side. Another style is to comb it down smoothly in front and arrange it in a fantastic loop behind. As soon as a boy's hair is long enough to get hold of, they begin to braid it, and braid in strings or ribbon to make his cue longer.

Little boys often have cues half a yard long, only two inches of it hair and the rest black strings.

GAMES.

The little girls seldom have dolls, but they play with balls and shuttle-cocks; only boys fly kites. They have a game something like our "Blind Man's Buff," one similar to "Hide and Seek," and one very much like "Button Button." It is remarkable how many games in common children have all over the world.

But it is work, work, for most of the poor heathen children. This is one of the many contrasts between children in heathen and Christian lands.

CENTRAL INDIA.

MISS FRASER'S RETURN.

Dr. W. Grant Fraser, of Mhow, C. India, who was obliged to return to Canada a year before her time for furlough, in impaired health, the result of a severe attack of smallpox, has arrived at her home in Toronto. We are glad to be able to say that Dr. Fraser's health is much restored by the voyage home.