

in the wildest away at anything which seemed strange to them. But it was not easy to draw them in.

One by one, however, old people and young, parents and children, began to think that learning was a good thing, and that it would be worth while to give themselves a little trouble to get it. This encouraged the missionaries, and they soon saw that their labours would not be in vain. One Sabbath an interesting native, called Puluna, was seen by the missionary entering chapel, leading two shy but bright-eyed girls. They were her daughters. Having sat quietly until the service was ended, Puluna went up to the missionary and asked him to take her children and herself under his instruction. From that day they became constant scholars, and they made good progress. The mother was so diligent that in a few weeks she was able to read and to write, and not very long afterwards her daughters could do the same. When the missionary introduced slates for the use of the scholars, &c., Puluna received one of them. She valued the present much, and was so anxious to make good use of it that four days after she brought up her slate to the missionary with this sentence written in English, "I cannot see God; but God can see me." You may fancy how pleased she was with her success, and you would have laughed outright if you had been there, and had seen how the rest of the scholars, and others who were not scholars, gaped and stared as they heard her read out the words, first in English and then in their own language. They now saw that a slate could really speak, that it could speak in different languages, and that one of their own people could make it speak!

The fame of the school, and the wonderful books, and the speaking slates soon spread; and many others came there to learn. One day a little boy, with a mild and pleasant face, was seen peeping in through the paling that surrounded the school-house, watching the movements of those within. The missionary saw him, and said, "Would you like to live with us, and learn to work and read?" *He* (yes) was his prompt and pleasant answer. He was taken at his word. He became a diligent scholar and a good boy. In a few months he could read several parts of the English Bible well. Soon he expressed a wish to teach others who were still ignorant; and, even while he was still a boy, he made himself very useful in helping the missionaries. At another time a young man came to the mission-house, and said very earnestly, "I goin' to live with you now; I want to learn to read, and learn navigation. I like take the sun, sail out o' sight o' land, and go to any part o' the world." He had been to China, and had learned to speak the English language.