

that makes this work so interesting, as thereby many are reached who would not otherwise hear the Gospel. A barber occasionally stops for a moment to listen as something of more than ordinary interest is said, then proceeds with his work. Sabbath is the day devoted to those queues, which the Chinese admire, and the "Meli-an man" dislikes above everything else. They never will "assimilate" the American says, while the queues are worn. Dr. Dio Lewis, of Boston, suggests, that "assimilating" can hardly be expected under the present treatment. As I look upon these flowing locks upon this Sabbath afternoon, I no longer wonder that they are indignant when their long queues are cut. They are perfect marvels in quantity and length, and if to them they are a mark of beauty or position, they cannot be expected with their Eastern ideas, to give them up any more willingly than American ladies would part with theirs. Even here when we see the queue *wound around the head*, we know that we are addressing a menial. While the washing, shaving, and combing process is going on all about us, the speaker addressing the company gathered about the door, is telling of God's willingness to receive all who will come; and adds, "How many of you wish to come to Christ. Let all who do, raise the hand." There is a look of surprise, of half fear, of ridicule on the face of the listeners, as the interpreter explains the request, and then nearly every hand is raised. Your correspondent, like Thomas of old, is "very doubting," and says, "They cannot understand what he means." "Oh, yes, they mean that they wish to be "Jesus men" is their reply. "Jesus men" and "heart religion" are the terms used by them to designate true followers of Christ in distinction to merely nominal Christians. At the close of the service, one of the young China-men selects the hymn, "Alas, and did my Saviour bleed." How precious those good old hymns of our childhood are! Then the service closes, and we walk home, feeling what a blessed privilege to be working for heathen souls, when there is so much beauty in the outer world, so little of self-denial. Yet many Christians even here count it self denial to teach or labour in any way for a Chinese.

Yesterday, I met a Missionary from one of the Micronesian Islands, who is here to recruit. She had not heard from her husband and only child since she left last November, and could not until her return next June. *That* may be called self-denial. "The feeling of isolation is very great," she said, "but I never like to speak of

what we have done; it looks as if I expected because I was a Missionary, something more than others." I wondered as I thought of her if our Canadian ladies, and we of San Francisco, realized the kindness of the Father of all, that He has given us both a work to do at our very doors with the Romanists and Chinese, as well as the privilege of *sending* the Gospel to other lands.

Dr. Kerr, of Canton, in a recent lecture on China, spoke in the highest terms of the Canadian Missionaries at Formosa. He hopes soon to have a hospital for the Chinese here. I met Dr. Spear a few evenings since. He is returning from China where he was for many years (long ago) a Missionary, but has been more recently connected with the Board of Education of the Presbyterian Church. Dr. Vincent, of New York, opens the Sabbath School Convention this evening in Oakland. The San Francisco Theological Seminary sent out three Graduates last week, all engaged by Churches on the Coast before they left the Seminary. This is the day of small things as regards the Seminary, but it is firmly established now, and will be a great power for good, as all *Presbyterian* Theological Seminaries are! Dr. Eels who leaves Monday next as a delegate to Edinburgh, has been untiring in his efforts to make this Seminary what it is. If Satan is busy in San Francisco, so are Christians. Church debts are being rapidly wiped off, and earnest prayer is ascending for the blessing which seems very near.

## Missionary Items.

### THE "DAYSPRING."

THE mission ship, about which we have heard and read so much, is now in Auckland harbour. She is a fine large three-masted schooner, and is comfortably and conveniently fitted up for the accommodation of the New Hebrides missionaries and the transit of their stores. She left the islands on the 19th December, with Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Inglis, and the Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Watt, and arriving first at Port Chalmers, she then visited Lyttelton, Wellington, and Auckland, and is to sail for Sydney in the first week of this month. She has been visited by the various Sunday-schools at the different ports she has visited, and coconuts have been dealt out liberally to the children, which of course they enjoyed heartily. The expense of sailing the Dayspring is from £1,600 to £1,800 per annum, so that this trip will cost the Mission between £500 and £600, but then against that must