

Manual labor is to a surprising extent a discount in the West Indies, especially among those who can read a little. This is a danger that we keep in view in our training. To scrub the church floor, wash the windows and trim the lamps are pleasant tasks for our girls, and are attended to altogether by them. *Washing, ironing and starching*, formidable tasks here, where nearly all the clothing is of the lightest fabric, and is washed in cold water, has been done by each girl for herself under Miss Morton's superintendence.

Sewing has been taught by Miss Morton alone. Each girl has made her own dresses (English fashion) many of them of course slowly and painfully. Victoria is quite proficient, and assists in teaching the others. Sarah Agnes is also beginning to do the same. Here I should mention that the girls deserve a great deal of credit for the patience and faithfulness with which they teach each other.

Without their help we would not be able to overtake the many things that have to be attempted, in the short time we can expect to have a pupil with us.

Many masculine eyes are turned anxiously in the direction of our Home. Some have applied and been refused, who boldly stated that they wanted "a wife to cook their rice." We wish to keep all our present pupils a little longer, for their own sake. We shall then intimate to the expectants that they may advance their suit and the result will be to make room in the Home for new ones. The girls have always been very happy with us—many tears are shed over a marriage and those who go out still look upon it as their home. A new pupil has already entered for 1892.

The total expenditure for 1891 was \$409.55; the average cost per pupil was \$42.20, which is \$6.00 less than in 1890. The cost includes marriage outfit for two girls with a broom and a hoe for the other three brides, whose outfit was provided by their friends. Thanks are tendered to all the friends who have contributed to our funds.

SARAH E. MORTON.

LETTER FROM MR. J. BOSTWICK.

TIENTSIN, CHINA, Jan. 8, 1892.

HAMILTON CASSELLS, ESQ.

DEAR SIR,—I am in receipt of your letter of the 17th November, which followed the cablegram sent in regard to the apprehended troubles in the region of the Honan Mission. It is not necessary for me to enter into details in the matter, as Mr. McVicar was here at the time of the arrival of the message, and no doubt he and the others have given you detailed reports of all the occurrences; suffice it for me to say that I

take pleasure in keeping them as fully posted as I do those of our own mission. (The American Board.—Ed.)

The condition of things at this writing is not different from that of a few weeks, say two weeks ago. The Imperial troops are driving the rebels, slowly to be sure, but nevertheless they are bound to exterminate the whole lot of rebels in the North.

If the people join the rebels they have to cut off their queues, and if they do not join them, the rebels cut *them* (the people) off, and leave them no choice but to fight as long as they can. The queue is the national emblem, and to be minus this means a clear case against the individual, and if the Imperials get him, his head goes the way his queue has already gone. So they have nothing to do but fight until this time comes, postponing the operation as long as possible.

The greatest sort of a joke was played by the rebels upon the troops a few nights ago. They took a lot of goats and tied lighted lanterns to their horns and then mounted all their available men and drove these goats over the hill and towards the camp of the soldiers, shouting and making all the noise possible, following this up by a rapid firing upon the troops, who were taken by surprise, and, thinking that all the rebels were coming down upon them, were so frightened that they were badly cut up and lost many men, before they got in shape to make a decided stand and fight back the enemy.

This shows that the rebels are not yet exterminated and have a little sense of the ludicrous even though in close quarters and in danger all the while.

The worst of all this war comes upon the poor people, who are compelled to join them whether they will or no. Dr. Hopkins of the M. E. Mission, has just returned from that region and says that many thousands of these poor farmers have thus been killed. The rebels taking their horses, leave them no chance of escape, and the order to give no quarter is fully carried out by the soldiers.

Yours truly,

T. J. BOSTWICK.

A Chinese clergyman was asked how many clergy he thought there were in England. "Perhaps 1,500," he said. When he heard that there were 24,000, "Can you not," he asked, "spare 1,000 for China?"

"Is your husband a religious man?" "I'm not quite certain. When I hear him speak in the prayer-meeting, I think he is, when I hear him speaking at home, I think he isn't."—*Life*.

Misfortune is never sad to the soul that accepts it as from God, for such do always see on every cloud the face of an angel.—*W. C. Whitcomb*.