

pigeon, mi flin cum down side mi housie, talke mi so fashion mi kick up bobbery along you." To which the Chinaman will reply: "mi savey no casion makey flaid, can secure do plopel pigeon long you flin all same fashin long you."

Fighting with crickets is a common amusement among the Chinese, and the belligerents can be purchased in small cages. A foreigner wishing to ask for a cricket will say: "mi wantchie makey look, see those two pieces ting makey fightie."—"Haiyah hab got can catechie chop-chop," will be the Chinaman's reply.

This language is as simple as it is absurd, but the words must be arranged as the Chinaman has been accustomed to hear them, or he will not understand what is said. It is spoken in all the ports of China open to foreign trade, and there is no disposition to adopt a purer one. No matter how fluently the China merchant may speak this "pigeon English," he cannot understand anything that is spoken among the foreigners themselves; and this is on the whole fortunate, as remarks are daily made at table about the country and its institutions, which would not be at all gratifying to a mandarin to hear.

The majority of the streets are very narrow, and it would not be a difficult matter for a person to get by one single step from one side to the other. Most of the retired streets are occupied by tradesmen, those of a similar calling keeping together and occupying a whole side of a street. A long row of houses solely occupied by shoemakers, will be seen on one side, and on the other side an equal number of tailoring establishments or trunk makers, all of whom are hard at work. One would fancy that it would be to the interest of all parties were they to distribute themselves throughout the city, but it is to be inferred that they each have patrons who find out their favorite link in the long chain, and visit no other. In many of the streets are to be seen shops containing goods of foreign manufacture, and there are many other indications of the benefits which the Chinese are deriving from foreign intercourse. Ugly looking implements of torture standing in racks, and under the custody of policemen, occupy a position in every street, their disreputable guardians being a greater source of dread to the people than the polished steel itself. The police are poorly paid by the Government, and make up the deficiency by practising enormities upon the people, which dare not be introduced into any civilized country. They are complained of at times by the people, but no heed is given to their petition, unless it is accompanied by a certain amount of money which the sufferer is unwilling and in most instances unable to furnish.