

It is more than religion with the Chinese to obey as their ancestors have obeyed, and in all things to follow in the footsteps of those ancestors. This held China together for centuries; but now the reluctance of the Chinese to make use of methods and implements of war that were unknown to their ancestors threatens to make China, if not a nation of the past, at least a nation torn and dismembered. The late war with Japan should teach China the necessity of the arts of Western civilization.

A large proportion of the Chinese are born, live, and die on boats. Strangely enough, none, or nearly none, of them can swim; but almost every Chinese child is an expert fisher, and exceedingly fond of the sport. Fish and rice form very largely the diet of every Chinese child. Except among the very poor, the children and the women eat apart from the men.

The children of the wealthier people eat considerable poultry and unlimited fruit. Among the poorer Chinese the girls are taught to cook, to do all sorts of household work, and to sew roughly. I have eaten some delicious dinners cooked by a Chinese girl of twelve. Indeed, cooking is the great national talent of the Chinese.—*Selected.*

"WHAT WILL YOU GIVE?"

A RECITATION.

FIRST GIRL.

There's a call from the far-off heathen land
Oh, what can you give for the great demand?

ALL.

We have not wealth, like the rich man's store;
We will give ourselves—we have nothing more.

SECOND GIRL.

I will give my feet, they shall go and go,
Till the heathen's story the world shall know.

THIRD GIRL.

I will give my hands, till their work shall turn
To the gold I have not, but can earn.

FOURTH GIRL.

I will give my eyes the story to read
Of the heathen's sorrow, the heathen's need.

FIFTH GIRL.

I will give my tongue, that story to tell,
Till Christian hearts shall with pity swell.

SIXTH GIRL.

We have little to give; but by and by
We may hear a call from the Voice on high,
"To bear my gospel o'er land and sea
Into all the world, go ye, go ye!"

ALL (very slowly and solemnly).

Though of silver and gold we have none at all,
We will give ourselves if we hear that call.

—From Young Folks Missionary.

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