

little boy and lived in Canton city, one day a missionary gave me a Bible, and told me to take it home to my father to read it for me. So I did. I went home and told my father that a foreigner gave me a book, and wanted him to read it for me; but he said, "I don't want to read the Jesus book; we have our Confucius books." He took it away from me, put it aside and never read it; and he forbade me ever to take any more books from the foreigners.

But, dear friends, such a hard feeling of the people of China against the Holy Bible has begun to melt away, just as when the hot sun shines upon the snow. Now, in China, whenever a Chinaman sees a Bible, he wants to read it in order to find out what it tells about, because he hears every day some of his countrymen talking about that Jesus whose gospel trumpet is sounding like thunder and awakens everybody there, and so large a number of them have become the believers of that "foreigners' God," not only in one place, but in all parts of China. Aroused by such curiosity, he tries all he can to see into this matter, and when he has found out the truth of the "foreigners' God," he himself soon becomes one of His believers. Indeed, very many of my countrymen have become Christians in this way; and as soon as they are Christians they make the Bible their special study, because they have never before studied so true a book as this, and because they want to tell their countrymen on what ground and why they become Christians, and in the hope that others may also be the followers of the Saviour of the world. They cannot refrain from telling others what a new and happy life they are leading. They feel and know that they have passed from darkness to light. "Old things are passed away, and all things are become new." Oh, this Holy Bible! How its light is beaming in that old and mysterious land of China! God means that over four hundred million souls shall come to Him for the living water. He will give them the sword of the Spirit to conquer the devil that comes between Him and man. I do believe that God uses this Bible Society as His instrument to accomplish His great and wise purpose. He will reward every one who puts a hand to do this good work. Every Bible sent out from the Bible Society may do much good for the Master. Now let me tell you how one of my countrymen became a Christian about two years ago, in this city. He used to work in a Chinese shoe-shop among several Chinese Christians. He was well educated in his own language, and was well versed in Confucius. He disliked those Christian Chinese, and often told them how undutiful and disrespectful they were both to their ancestors and their gods. He tried all he could to prevent others from being the followers of Christ. Those Christian Chinese were much troubled, and they tried to prevail over him by argument, but their efforts failed, and they were beaten by him. He had the advantage over them because he was so well versed in Confucius. Finally they gave him the Bible, one in English and one in Chinese, and asked him to read it and see whether it is better than Confucius or not. When he got the Bible to read for a few days, he stopped talking against Christianity. When about two weeks had passed, he confessed to the Christian brethren that he had found some truth in the doctrine of Jesus, and then he seemed to take a great interest in speaking on the subject of Christianity. About a month passed; he told the Christian brethren that he would be an idolater no more; he felt God was telling him so. So he gave up idolatry at once and became a good Christian, and joined the army to battle for Christ. A very short time after his conversion, there was a great argument between the Christian Chinese and the heathen Chinese in Oakland. The heathen side had many able speakers, who had good knowledge in the doctrine of Confucius, and nearly every time in argument they gained the victory over the Christian Chinese. Then he was invited over to Oakland, for he was just the man needed in that fight. When he went there and argued with them for two or three evenings, they, the heathen, knew that they were beaten by him and could not do any better, so all of them dispersed and never came there again to argue about Christianity and Confucius. We thanked God for having him at that time, and at