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## CHILDREN IN CHINA.

This picture presents a number of Chinese scenes. First, a strange kite, then how the Chinese eat with chopsticks, then how they carry their babies, then young China going to school and a scene at school. See how the boy stands with his back to the teacher.

There is no gladness in a Chinese family at the birth of a little girl, though friends and neighbors come together to rejoice when a boy is born. Parents think it a great disgrace to have only daughters in their family, and they fear the gods must be very angry to send them such a misfortune. And though it is almost too sad to believe, little girl-babies are sometimes put to death by their own parents, who do not want the trouble of bringing them up.

A Chinese girl is seldom taught to do anything but to use her hands—to cook, weave, do embroidery, etc.

She is taken away when quite a child from her own father and mother to be married, and then, unless she belongs to the poorer classes, she is seldom seen outside the house of her mother-in-law. Indeed you will not won-



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der at this if you remember their strange custom of cramping the feet of women to make them small. The mother begins to bind the foot when the little daughter is only two years old, and the bandages are worn for years, though some of the

children die of the cruel pain. At last the poor foot loses all feeling, but it is crippled, and almost useless. The small-footed girl cannot walk any distance without the help of a stick, and her hobble must indeed be painful to see. Yet the Chinese admire the walk of small-footed ladies and say it is like "the waving of willow-boughs in a breeze."

Are you not thankful, dear girls, for your own loving mothers and happy homes? For your freedom to learn and play, to walk and run? Chinese girls are just as willing and as quick to learn as their Canadian sisters when the opportunity is given them. There are now some schools in China where girls are gathered together to learn from gentle, patient teachers, lessons more precious than heathen masters can teach their pupils. These are the Christian mission schools for girls.

A tree will not lie as it falls, but it will fall as it leans. And the great question that every one should bring home to himself is: "What is the inclination of my soul? Does it, with all its affection, lean toward God, or away from him?"