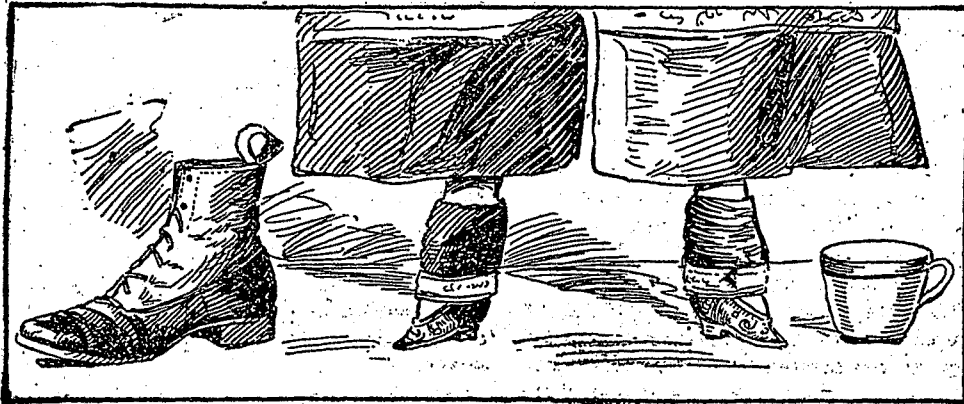


Ephraim, but of Britain and America. In the memory of many living, there was not a drinking shop in Jerusalem, but now they affirm there are over a hundred called forth through European and American influence and wants.

Bound Feet.

Foot binding in China began more than a thousand years ago. Some say it originated from the fact that a certain queen had club feet, and all of the women of the court wished to imitate her; others, that it was devised by men so the women would be obliged to remain at home and not gossip with their neighbors. Whatever the original cause, there are probably not less than one hundred and twenty million girls and women suffering on account of the social custom, which has no connection with the laws or the religion of China. It is only an aristocratic practice, and nothing but the spread of Christianity, and the growth of Christian public sentiment, teaching compassion for the weak, and sympathy with the suffering, can abolish it. Nothing pains me more while visiting my 'Special Gift' schools, than to see the dear little girls with their crippled feet. Foot binding



BOUND FEET.
Actual Size as Compared With an Ordinary Teacup and Boot.

is begun at about the age of five or six years, after a girl is able to walk well, or she would never learn.

A strip of cotton cloth two inches wide and about two yards long is used. One end is placed beneath the instep and then carried over the four small toes, drawing them down beneath the foot, while the great toe is left free, then back under the hollow of the foot and around the instep, once or twice, then around the heel from the outside to the inside, and then again over the instep and toes, and so on as before. The bandage is frequently tightened, and all the while the instep is forced up, and the smaller toes drawn under. The bones of the foot are slowly bent and forced into an ugly mass up in front of the ankle. The ball of the great toe comes back against the heel. Thus only the heel and great toe go into the little shoe. For the first year or two the girls suffer constant pain, although many devices are used to try to relieve the agony. Through the long summer days, instead of romping and enjoying the fresh air and sports with her brother, the poor little girl will lie restless with fever upon her couch, and when the cold nights of winter come, she is afraid to wrap her limbs in warm covering lest the suffering becomes more intense.

If the girl is not betrothed until she is ten or more years of age, the first question is, 'What is the length of her feet?' The small footed ladies of China; hobble and limp along about as others would walking on their heels, supporting themselves by placing one hand on a child's shoulder, or by means of a strong staff. Their move-

ments are as the willows, and 'their feet as the Golden Lily,' sings the Chinese poet.

We have some poor, worthy Christian women who are very anxious to work so as to help support their little families. A few of these women I am employing to make little shoes. As to size, shape and material, they are exactly like those worn. They are neat and pretty, and will be a great curio in any home, an ornament on any mantel. I will mail you a pair for one dollar, six pairs for four dollars, twelve pairs for seven dollars. The profits will help to educate the boys and girls of China.

GEO. S. MIVER,

Superintendent 'Special Gift' schools, Fouchow, China.

Home Department.

It is an invariable experience in the Home Department that its members are continually growing less by transfers to the main school. The little half-hour or more per week has awakened a desire for a better understanding of the Bible. Usually, in less than a year after the department is organized, from ten to twenty percent of the original number will be attending the Sunday session of the school. The public congregation is

also increased. At a recent Sunday-school convention the question was asked, 'Does the Home Department take members from the main school, or lessen the attendance at church?' The conductor turned the question over to the conference. Not a single person answered 'yes' to the question. Then he asked all who knew of instances where the department had increased the school and the public congregation to say 'Amen.' The response was so strong and unanimous as to suggest the 'amen' about the throne of God described in the 'Book of Revelation.'

Through this agency many have been converted and joined the church. Some of these have been persons unknown to the church or pastor until the department found them. A short time ago, at a most inspiring Home Department conference, the delegates reported two, five, six, eight, ten led to Christ through this benign agency.

The department develops the latent talent of the church. A certain Home department superintendent was a person who, prior to assuming this office, had no place in church work. She was efficient and successful. Her successor was a lady not especially prominent in church circles, but who has made an ideal superintendent. She has enlisted persons as visitors who were not supposed to possess any available or usable talent, and yet those persons were really 'dying of doing nothing.' The department helps in religious visitation. The ideal visitor will not only deliver the quarterly requisites, but will be an inspiration and a

help to the members. In most churches it is difficult to secure social visitation. The Home Department has partly solved that difficulty. It has in its membership many who cannot attend church or Sunday-school.—Rev. C. E. Moggs, Ph. D., in 'S.S. Times.'

For the Indian Famine.

We are pleased to copy these acknowledgments from the 'Daily Witness' of March 3, as many of the subscriptions came through friends of the 'Messenger.'

INDIAN FAMINE FUND.

Undesignated.	
Previously acknowledged	\$300.39
G. T. M.	1.00
Elizabeth Le Pan	10.00
Phillip Garrot	1.00
Mrs. Susie Pettengill	1.00
Mrs. S. A. Philip	1.00
Y. P. S. C. E., of Islay	2.00
John G. Ewing	1.00
Mrs. John G. Ewing	1.00
Miss Catherine Ewing	1.00
A. O. Ewing	1.00
Katie Carruth	.50
Archie Carruth	.50
Mrs. S. Ewing	1.00
An-Old Subscriber, Elm Valley	.50
X.	2.50
Collected by Junior Endeavorers of St. Andrew's Church, Lachine.	5.00
Rev. Merton Smith	5.00
Maude Esther Murphy	1.00
A. Gordon S. Murphy	1.00
Daisy	1.00
'Inasmuch'	2.00
A Friendly Sister	2.00
Mrs. Charles Leavens	1.00
Amasa Loomer	5.00
E. Mutch	2.00
H. Spied	5.00
Mrs. McPhail	1.00
Robert Rillet	1.00
Beatrice J. ckling	3.00
Middleville Christian Endeavor Society	5.00
Alex. Sinclair	1.00
The A. C. L. of Lincoln avenue	3.65
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C. Campbell	1.20
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A Friend	.75
J. Samson	2.00
Two Friends	1.00
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A Sympathizer, Henrysburg	2.00
Mrs. H. Tilson	1.00
Collected by Rev. A. M. Boasey, Embro, Ont.	4.40
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S. Waldoek	1.00
J. H. Fraser	2.50
Clara B. Wightman	10.00
Two Friends, Hall's Prairie	1.00
Peachland Sunday school, per C. G. Elliott, supt.	15.00
A. M. F.	1.00
Sadie Hall	1.00
Mr. and Mrs. G. J. Hunt	3.00
A. McMillan	2.00
R. B. S.	2.00
Christian Advent S. S., Scotstown	1.00
Wm. Taylor	1.00
C. F. Postley	2.00
Two Friends, Denver, Col.	2.00
B. Durrell	2.85
Seven Girls, Acton	1.69
B. H.	1.00
Union Sunday-school, North Coast-Cook	1.00
	\$446.13

INDIAN FAMINE FUND.

Christian Alliance Mission at Mehmedabad, Gujarat—	
Previously acknowledged	\$143.20
Wm. Budden	2.00
Ellen Jean Taylor	3.00
Mrs. D. F. McLachlan	10.00
A Friend, Lachute	5.00
J. T. Laing	5.00
Mrs. Bremner	20.00
Miss Katie McDougall	3.00
Mrs. W. S. Lyster	1.00
Jessie Fisher	3.25
Baillieboro Methodist Church collection	5.00
Baillieboro Methodist Mission Band	1.00
	\$205.45

The Find-the-Place Almanac.

TEXTS IN LEVITICUS.

- Mar. 18., Sun.—A Sabbath-of rest.
 Mar. 19., Mon.—Ye shall do my statutes and keep my judgements.
 Mar. 20., Tues.—Ye shall make you no idols.
 Mar. 21., Wed.—Ye shall keep my Sabbaths.
 Mar. 22., Thurs.—And I will give peace.
 Mar. 23., Fri.—I will set My tabernacle among you.
 Mar. 24., Sat.—And I will walk among you.