

CHINESE CRUELTY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES.

Sir,—In *The Times* of the 13th inst., there appeared a letter from your Shanghai Correspondent detailing certain facts relating to the way in which Yakob Beg's innocent relations are being treated by the Chinese Government. It seems probable that Maiti Kuli, though confessedly he was "not privy to the treasonable designs of his parents," has already suffered the vindictive outrage which is prescribed by the Chinese law in such cases. But, surely, something may yet be done to save his two little brothers, Yima Kuli and K'ati Kuli, and his nephew, Aisan Ahung, from a similar fate? Will not our Government at least protest against this ghastly piece of barbarity? I have hitherto waited in hopes of seeing in your columns some announcement to the effect that the British Minister has made, or has been instructed to make, earnest representations on the subject to the Chinese Government, but I have waited in vain. Perhaps, therefore, you will allow me to be the means of once more calling attention to the matter? If only Parliament were sitting, it would at once become known either that we are doing our duty by protesting, or that we are meekly acquiescing; but during the recess the public has no means of satisfying itself that in connexion with such questions we, as a Christian and civilized nation, are acting as we ought.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

WM. LAIRD-CLOWES.

86, Holland-road, W., Sept. 17.