

THE  
LIBERAL CHRISTIAN.

---

VOL. I.

DECEMBER, 1854.

No. 12.

---

THE CHINESE CRUSADERS.\*

IF that patient Chinese who so resolutely awaits his fate in the middle of the little bridge in the willow-pattern, should suddenly, during the pauses of some tedious dinner, move off before our eyes, and scull himself in that odd little boat to the very margin of the plate, it would scarcely awaken more interest or surprise than the information of the last year concerning the late revolution in China, which, the more we hear of it, even from those who most dislike and distrust it, all the more looks like the instantaneous melting of a morally petrified people. Till now China and the Chinese have been the only human part of the inhabited globe that it was next to impossible to be much interested in, except in the way of curiosities. You attempted to read their history, and found it, although full of moral atrocity, far duller than inorganic chemistry, and not half so intelligible. With a material civilization that would match the merely material civilization of Europe,

\* From the London Inquirer, October 7.