

A WHOLE FAMILY OF CHINESE CHRISTIANS.

The following interesting account of the power of the truth, and of the spread of its influence from one to another proves what may be expected to be the progress of the Gospel when the time for China's conversion is come :

"The whole family consisting of the two parents and three sons, are now members of the Christian Church. An united family on earth—I hope to meet them an unbroken family in heaven. The oldest son Gong-lo, was the first to receive the truth from Mr. Burns; then his second brother, Kwai-a, who is now living with me, prosecuting his studies, and will, I hope, make an excellent evangelist or pastor if he is spared, and continues to prosper as he now does; then the old man followed, giving striking evidence of a deep work of the Spirit of God. His youngest son, Som-a, on asking to be allowed to go to Amoy with his father to be baptized, was told that he was too young; he might fall back if he made a profession when he was only a little boy. To which he made the touching reply, 'Jesus has promised to carry the lambs in His arms. As I am only a little boy, it will be *easier* for Jesus to carry me.'

"This was too much for the father; he took him with him, and Som-a was ere long baptized, with some other applicants.

"The most interesting circumstance in the conversion of Hesse, the mother, is that she never had any instruction, except from the members of her own family; and as they apprehended the truth themselves, as soon as they began to communicate it to her, and they found a mind well prepared to receive the good seed of the word. From an early period she manifested a lively interest in the Saviour, and encouraged her children to obey the new doctrine. She, by the tyranny of Chinese custom, dare not come to hear for herself, but her

sons were in the habit of repeating to her as much of the sermons they heard as they could carry home; and when, at any time, they heard any exposition of scripture, during their intercourse with their teachers, they would set off to tell their mother, and return for more to convey. And so well had she profited by their instruction, that all who heard her examination were surprised at the extent and accuracy of her information, not less than at the courage she manifested in coming openly forward, with no other woman to bear her company, and in a place where she was the first, as well as the solitary confessor of her sex. It says the more for her moral courage that she is naturally timid and retiring."

In addition to those already named, he says that two other women have applied for baptism, and that six or eight hopeful male applicants were waiting for admission. At Peh-chu-ia he has been enabled to make an addition to the accommodation, by which the women can now come and hear the word preached without mixing with the men, which in China is cause of great scandal. On some occasions eight or ten women come in by their own private door, hear the sermon, and leave again, without being seen by the other worshippers.

### The Foolish Rich Man.

There are a great many people, who live as if they had no souls, and as if they were never to die.

But this is very foolish,—because every one, the poorest beggar, as well as the greatest king, has a soul that will live forever. I know that I have a soul, because I find something within me, that can think and know, can wish and desire, can rejoice and be sorry, which my body cannot do. And my soul is worth more than all the world. Jesus Christ has declared, that it will profit a man nothing if he should gain the whole world, and lose his own soul.