

AN ACCOUNT OF CHRISTIAN PERFECTION.

LET us strongly and explicitly exhort all believers to go on to perfection. That we may all speak the same thing, we ask once for all, Shall we defend this perfection, or give it up? We all agree to defend it, meaning thereby (as we did from the beginning) salvation from all sin, properly so called, by the love of God and man filling our heart. Some say, "This cannot be attained till we have been refined by the fire of purgatory." Others, "Nay, it will be attained as soon as the soul and the body part." But others say, "It may be attained before we die: a moment after is too late." Is it so, or not? We are all agreed, we may be saved from all sin before death, *i. e.*, from all sinful tempers and desires. The substance, then, is settled. But as to the circumstances, is the change gradual or instantaneous? It is both the one and the other. "But should we, in preaching, insist both on one and the other?" Certainly we should insist on the gradual change; and that earnestly and continually. And are there not reasons why we should insist on the instantaneous change? If there be such a blessed change before death, should we not encourage all be-