

STRAW MEN.

Where are they found?
In a country called Korea.

What are they?

Little straw images about as high as a table, and may be seen for sale in straw merchants' shops.

What are they for?

Not to make food or bedding for cattle, but for a very strange purpose.

Upon a certain night in their New Year, men and women buy these straw men and hide some money inside the body. Then the owner puts some of his own clothes on the little straw man, takes it out and leaves it on the street. The straw man represents the

man who put it there, and it is believed that all the disease and misfortune which might come to him during the year just beginning, will go into the person who takes the money from the straw man.

Before doing all this he consults a sorcerer about the matter, and makes sure that all the evils that would come to him: will go to another through the straw man.

I expect there are a good many of them who will risk taking the ills for the sake of getting the money. Probably the sorcerers themselves are on the watch to search the little straw men when they are put out.

Poor, blind, deluded people. How much they need the knowledge of Jesus the Savior, who alone can take away our ills.



STRAW MEN.

THE BLIND HEATHEN MOTHER.

At a Japanese temple, says a missionary, I saw a woman with a baby in her arms offer some rice, and pray to an image of Buddha. Then, eager to win the favour of the god for her child, she made the baby-hands push for-

ward the bowl containing the offering, so that the god might be pleased with the little one. Can you not fancy the sadness of that sight, or how one longed to tell her of the loving Saviour, who said, "Suffer the little children to come unto me"!