

ly adored the one God, but who believed moreover, in the Holy Trinity, in whose name they had been baptised. The wonderful effects which Baptism produces in the soul were to be strengthened in them by the sacrament of Confirmation, which they were about to receive, not from the hands of the Apostles Peter and John or the ancient inhabitants of Samaria, but from the Apostolic Delegate, the representative of the successor of St. Peter. The number who received Confirmation amounted to seventy-five; by their piety and recollection they edified the crowds who had assembled to witness the ceremony. At its conclusion, I could not help giving expression to the joy with which it filled my heart; borrowing the words of St. Paul to the Corinthians: *Ego plantavi, Apollo rigavit, Deus autem incrementum dedit.* 'I have reason to rejoice, my children,' said I, 'at having planted this vine; the pastors and pious laymen whose assiduous care is employed in cultivating it, will rejoice too with me; but we must all confess, that God alone could have given it so admirable an increase.'

"On the following Thursday I assisted at a public examination of the pupils of the school established in the house occupied by the Missionaries, under whose direction it is placed, to the great satisfaction of the children's parents. The children were examined, in the presence of the administrative Council, in Greek grammar, Geography, arithmetic, writing, and drawing: three obtained first prizes, with a silver medal of his Holiness Gregory XVI, and three others received some pious books as premiums. The Excellency the President of the Administrative Council, at the close of this ceremony, which left a salutary impression on the minds of the pupils, was pleased to partake of a frugal collation with us in the small hall, which serves at the same time as a class room and refectory. It is to be regretted that the pecuniary resources of the Mission do not permit a school to be constructed separate from the dwelling of the Clergymen.

"Of the three Missionaries who are employ-

ed at Athens, under my jurisdiction, Mr. Constantin discharges the functions of Parish Priest and the two others, Messrs. Pierre and Martin, assist him in the capacity of Curates: they hear Confessions and preach in Greek, French, and Italian. His Majesty King Otho, who is a Catholic, has a chaplain attached to his service, the Rev. Andrew Arneith, D. D., who attends to the spiritual wants of the Germans resident at Athens. He also goes once a month to the village of Heraclea, two hours' journey from Athens, where the government has recently founded a colony of Bavarian soldiers, who had served four years in Greece, and where he says a second Mass and explains the Gospel. I paid a visit to the poor Catholics of this colony, and found a large tract of ground, which, when in possession of the Turks, had remained uncultivated for many years, divided by the government into sixty portions, of fifty *strema* each, a *strema* being equal to what a pair of oxen can plough in a day; a double portion is reserved for the future chaplain. Though only ten months had elapsed since the colonists were established in their new possessions, each had already cultivated his farm, and an abundant harvest of wheat, barley, and potatoes, promised to reward the industry of the colonists. The village is built in the form of a square, the houses being all alike, and each having a garden and small yard in the rear: the church is to be built in the middle of the square. The Administrative Council of Athens have exhausted all their resources, and the military colonists are yet too poor to be able to undertake the building of the new church. They are besides labouring under a disadvantage which must expose them to considerable inconvenience:—they are almost all of an age to enter into the marriage state, and as there are no Catholic females in the neighbourhood, they must go either to Bavaria, or to the islands of the Archipelago in search of wives.

"Immediately after my visit to this colony, I prepared to set out for the Missions of Peloponnesus, as the season was advancing, and with it the hot weather, which is not without danger