

You will be glad to hear that a few Sabbaths ago I baptized eight persons, admitting them to the fellowship of the Church here. One man, recently from the ranks of the heathen, was among the number. He had two or three little children, who were baptized at the same time. His wife, who still holds out against the gospel, was present, and very nearly broke down when handing her baby to her husband to be baptized. It was a solemn and joyful sight to the whole Church: even the heathen present seemed to be impressed, and to feel that it was good for them to be present to see eight souls publicly renouncing the world, and giving themselves to the service of God. But still all this is only like a drop in the bucket; thousands and thousands are sinking into perdition unsaved. The fields are white to the harvest, but the labourers are few. Oh, in these days of revival, surely some will be found ready to come to Africa with their simple but effective instrumentality—their sling and their stone from the brook, to help us to slay this Goliath of heathenism!”

CHINA.—At New Chang the Rev. J. Ross continues to carry forward his work. He had baptized two men, and other two were hopeful attendants at the meetings. Mr. Ross had met with great encouragement and success at Da Ping Shan and Kaichow. At the former place he baptized four persons, the first fruits of the mission.

SPAIN.—At Jerez de la Frontera a commodious new church has been opened under very encouraging circumstances. The Rev. Mr. Veliesid gives the following interesting account of its opening, and of the encouragement attending his labors: I thought that, before opening the church publicly for ordinary service, we should hold a prayer meeting in it, and thus dedicate it to God; accordingly we fixed on Friday, 3rd. We did not even announce to the congregation that the prayer meeting was to be held there, thus expecting to have it private for the general attendants. But we had about 300 present, all adherents and members. The Rev. Mr. Murray, from Cadiz, favoured us with his presence. The service was commenced by singing a beautiful hymn that we have in our collection for the opening of a church, in which all joined heartily and fervently. I then read the 95th Psalm, and offered a prayer that our Heavenly Father might deign to come and dwell in the new building prepared for his worship, and through the preaching of his Word to draw many souls unto Him. We then sang another hymn, and our evangelist, Don Rafael Blanco, gave a short address, drawing attention to the great privileges the Church of Jerez had received from the hands of God, and consequently that great was her responsibility. The Rev. Mr. Murray followed with an earnest speech in Spanish. One of our elders concluded with a heartfelt prayer. The meeting was very impressive, as well as interesting; our hearts were overflowing with gratitude to Him who has favoured us so much, and we did not forget to ask for showers of blessings on you and the dear friends in Scotland, who have provided us, through God's mercy, such a good church and commodious schools. Tears of joy were shed by many, and the people as they retired took me warmly by the hand, and wished me a long life to see much good done in it. Others said, “Blessed be God, we have now a house from which our enemies will not drive us away.” May the Lord grant that good may result from that meeting!

To our people this day seemed like a great feast-day, for the women, who usually come with shawls over their heads, now came with their “mantoa.” A great number of our school-girls had new dresses made for the occasion, and wore, for the first time in their lives, the “mantilla,” or