

proportion who would have been able to read for themselves the precious volume of Inspiration. At the most inland of these three stations, a few of our members, and at the last place, where a chapel has been opened, the entire population is Pè-po-loan—simple, kind-hearted and hospitable, unprejudiced to foreign intercourse, tenacious to their family traditions, gentle in their dispositions. These mountain peasantry exhibit as fine a specimen of rural contentment as is, probably, to be found within the eighteen provinces. It was last November, during an itinerating tour, I first visited these simple mountaineers. They gladly heard the word of God, and, in response to an invitation made them during the day at their homes, they assembled at one of their houses in the evening, and remained long past midnight listening with an apparent moral earnestness to the message of eternal life. A few months after this they willingly supplied the materials for a chapel (which is now crowded every Lord's day), cleansed their houses from idolatry, reared the family altar, whilst numbers of them are now gladly learning the Romanized Colloquial. I had an opportunity of spending a few weeks among them lately, and could easily mark the progress that had been made, as I went daily from house to house conversing with them on the subject of salvation.

After carefully comparing notes with Dr. Maxwell as to the testimony of each candidate in a once crucified but now exalted Saviour, the conviction that pressed home on both our consciences was, "Can any man forbid water that these should not be baptized?" Accordingly, on the 7th August, thirty-three men and women were admitted into church fellowship, and as this was the second occasion on which the sacraments were dispensed at the place, a membership of over sixty constitutes the first fruits unto Christ from this primitive people. There are still several hundreds in a waiting attitude towards the Gospel, eager to hear the good word of God, and ready to press into His kingdom; but, as you are aware, we are as yet a feeble band, and quite incompetent to meet the expanding necessities of the work.

### China.

The Canton Mission, China, are anxious to establish a school for training female assistants, and also a girls' boarding-school. These, Mr. Noyes thinks, are a necessity, to place their work on a foundation that will secure perpetuating results. Dr. Nevins writes Dec. 12 that he and Mr. Capp had just returned from a trip to Ping-tu, where they had gone to organize a church. In addition to the 22 Christians who had pro-

fessed their faith there, 14 others were baptized, so that the Ping-tu church now consists of 36 members. Of the 14 baptized, 4 were women. They are the first of their sex who have been received into the church in that region."

### Missionaries Transferred in China.

The Presbyterian Board at a late meeting received under its care from the American Board, Rev. Joseph L. Whiting, of Tientsin, and Rev. D. C. McCoy, of Peking. These brethren, with their wives, will be connected with the Shang-tung mission, which takes in the city of Peking.

### Summary.

The work of evangelization is advancing with steady step in Spain. Protestant Churches are being organized. The priests continue to rage.

The Italian Parliament has passed a resolution in favour of absolute religious liberty. One of the Pope's worst grievances is that he is not allowed as heretofore to persecute!

The Pope has excommunicated Dr. Dollinger, the ablest Roman Catholic author and one of the profoundest scholars of the age.

There is a fierce agitation in the Church England on the question of Ritualism,—or in plain words, to determine whether the Church is Protestant or Popish. A very powerful party is popish.

UNION.—According to our latest dates, the Free Church Presbyteries stands as follows: in favour of Union, 52; against, 10. This is astonishing to the most ardent friends of union. The United Presbyterian Presbyteries have approved of union without exception.

The Protestant Churches in France are suffering severely from the results of the war.

IRELAND.—The Bible and Colporteur Society for Ireland, sold during the past year 12,914 Bibles, Testaments and Psalm-books, 60,166 books, 521,406 periodicals and 83,420 tracts. Since its commencement in 1859 the Society has sold 4,876,974 publications. There are 435 book agents and 42 colporteurs.

The Presbyterian Sabbath School Society reports 915 schools, 7,740 teachers, and 62,402 scholars on its rolls.

A fresh list of contributions to the Sustentation Fund of the Irish Episcopal Church has been published. The list commences with a donation of \$100,000 from